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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

State Papers. Vol. I. King Henry VIII.
Parts I. and II. J. Murray.

IN our last we briefly but truly characterised this national work, with which we had considerable acquaintance during its progress through the press, and could therefore justly report its value. That it illustrates and corrects our history at an era like the present, of no common importance, will be found in very many instances; and a careful analysis of the volume with reference to this object will reflect credit upon the largest and ablest of our periodical reviews. For ourselves, limited in space, occupied with such various details, and subject to weekly interruptions, it would be vain to attempt such a task; but we trust it will be acceptable to our readers to have the most prominent points seized, and the book fairly exemplified by selections from it of the most curious and interesting matters.

The notice of the preservation of the State Papers appears to us to be one of these extracts.

"It will be readily conceived how rapidly the mass of correspondence must have accumulated in the office of the secretary of state, after the revival of letters in the sixteenth century; yet no provision was, for some time, made, for its being received into any certain depository. Each succeeding secretary had it in his own custody; the apartments provided for him were extremely confined; and the future destination of his official papers depended, in great measure, upon accident, upon the care or the negligence of the individual, or his clerks, and, above all, upon the good or evil fate which awaited the secretary when he resigned his seals. Even in the office of the Privy Council (the office, in which, in those days, and until the Revolution, all the affairs of the realm were debated and resolved on), no written record of the proceedings was preserved until 1540, when it was ordered that a regular register should be kept, and two clerks (Paget and Petre) were appointed to keep it. This register commences on the 18th of August in that year. The necessity of a repository for state papers began soon afterwards to be felt; and, in 1578, an office for keeping papers and records concerning matters of state and council, was established, and Dr. Thomas Wilson (who was then master of requests, and afterwards became one of the secretaries of state), was appointed the keeper and register of those papers. Before this establishment was formed, it is not surprising that numerous papers of great importance should have been entirely lost, and others have fallen into the possession of private persons. Sir Robert Cotton, in the reign of James the First, and Sir Joseph Williamson, in that of Charles the Second, were most assiduous and successful collectors of those scattered papers. The collections of the former now form a portion of the library of the British Museum. Sir Joseph Williamson placed his

collections in the State Paper Office, where they still remain. Another mass of papers, consisting principally of letters addressed to Cardinal Wolsey, and to Crumwell Earl of Essex, remained in the custody of the crown; but, instead of being deposited in the proper place, found its way into the Chapter House at Westminster, and is there preserved. The three great receptacles, therefore, of state papers, antecedent to the year 1540, and partially down to the year 1578, are the State Paper Office, the Chapter House, and the Cottonian Library. And so entirely accidental seems to have been the preservation of many of the papers, that, of a series relative to the same subject, a part will frequently be found in each of these three libraries. Nay, of two letters, written by the same person, to the same correspondent, on the same day, one will be discovered in one of these receptacles, the other in another, and the answer in the third; and several instances will be seen, where one portion of a letter is found in one part, and the residue in another part of the same collection. A few are to be met with in the Lambeth Library, the Harleian Collection, the University Library of Cambridge, and in private hands."

The preface proceeds with a list of the keepers from the end of the sixteenth century to the present hour, when the office is held by Henry Hobhouse, Esq.

"In the reign of James I. considerable attention appears to have been paid to this office. On the death of the Lord Treasurer Salisbury, in 1612, the king's commands were given to his successor, Thomas Earl of Suffolk, the lord privy seal, Edward Earl of Worcester, and Sir Julius Caesar, chancellor and under-treasurer of the Exchequer, to take possession of the late lord treasurer's papers, and deliver them to Muncke and Wilson. The subsequent patents expressly mention the office to contain the papers of Robert Earl of Salisbury. At this period, the papers, which had been hitherto kept in chests, were reduced into the form of a library, and the king assigned certain apartments in his palace of Whitehall for their reception. Wilson seems to have experienced difficulty in getting possession of some of those apartments, and has left a curious memorandum of the presents and douceurs, which he deemed it prudent to give to the lord chamberlain and Lord Worcester, and their servants, to obtain one room, which had been the larder of the lord privy seal. The part of the palace finally appropriated to this purpose, was the tower over the gateway, which connected the eastern and western parts of the edifice, standing across the street, now known by the name of Whitehall. The apartments are described by Tucker as consisting of two rooms, three closets, and three turrets. Of these Wilson did not get entire possession till 1618, when he presented a memorial to the king, complaining that he had received no new papers since Lord Salisbury's. This tower fortunately escaped the conflagration, which

destroyed great part of the palace on the 12th of January, 1619,—an escape which gave Wilson occasion to congratulate the king on his prescience in removing the papers, equal to that which led him to the detection of the Gunpowder Plot. But though Wilson boasted that the archives under his care had not, on this occasion, sustained so much hurt as the loss of a blank paper, Raymond, his successor, complained that they were thrown into great disorder, by having been hastily and confusedly cast into blankets, the better to preserve them from the fire. The events of the succeeding reign were very adverse to the regular preservation of public archives. Sir Joseph Williamson states, that he had been told by Sir Edward Nicholas, that Secretary Windebanke's papers were, on his retirement, delivered to Sir Edward, and were, when the latter went to the king from London, seized by the rebels and disposed of, he knew not how, as were all Nicholas's own up to that time. Some of them, afterwards, reached the State Paper Office, but probably in a very imperfect condition: Williamson further learned from Nicholas, that the papers, which he had subsequently collected while the king was in the north, and till the surrender of Oxford, were designedly burnt by Nicholas at that place, through fear that the rebels intended, notwithstanding the articles of Oxford, to seize him and his papers; and that he, at the same time, committed to the flames a cabinet of the king's, full of papers of a very secret nature, which his Majesty had left there upon his retirement to the Scots, with directions to Nicholas to burn them rather than let them fall into the rebels' hands. Among these were thought by Nicholas to be all the queen's letters to the king, and things of a very mysterious nature; but he looked not into one of them, in obedience to the commands of the king, who thanked him for that justice. Besides the destruction which is thus recorded, and much more, which must of necessity have occurred amid the disorders of civil war, the office is stated to have suffered spoliation, from papers, after being deposited there, having been taken from it, particularly by President Bradshaw, Secretary Thurloe, Scobell the clerk of the parliaments, and Milton the secretary for the Latin tongue. And several warrants were issued by the king in 1660 and 1661, requiring papers to be delivered up to Raymond, which had fallen into the hands of the three first of those officers of the commonwealth. Much pains were taken, after the restoration, to lodge in the State Paper Office the documents relative to the affairs of the usurpation. Thurloe is said to have destroyed some of them; but a large portion was secured, and now remains in the office; enough indeed to shew that, amid all the turbulence of that era, the transactions of the state were never more regularly recorded. Williamson has left considerable traces of his assiduity, during the early part of the long period for which he held the office; but his successor, Tucker, made great complaint of its having

been neglected in Williamson's later years; and it was found in a great state of neglect when it was visited, in 1705, by a committee of the House of Lords appointed to inquire into the method of keeping records and public papers in offices. In consequence of a report from that committee, compiled from a return made by Tucker, an address was presented to the queen, in which it was stated, that, with the exception of the papers of three secretaries of state, viz. Sir Edward Nicholas, the Earl of Arlington, and Sir Joseph Williamson, and those left by Sir Leoline Jenkins, few papers had been delivered into the office since the year 1670, and even those so delivered were not perfect, and many deficiencies are particularised. The address observed, also, upon the deficiency of space, and the inconvenience arising from many papers being kept in bundles; and recommended the repair and enlargement of the office, and that the papers should be sorted, and digested, and bound in volumes. After a reference to Sir Christopher Wren, it was determined that the upper floor of the lord chamberlain's lodgings, at the Cockpit, should be fitted up and appropriated to the State Paper Office. This work was accordingly done, and an apartment of eighty feet long and twenty-five feet wide, which is known by the name of the Middle Treasury Gallery, was then added to the office. In this state it remained until the old gateway was pulled down, about 1750, when the contents were found to have greatly suffered from vermin and wet. The papers contained in the gallery, which was left standing, remained there; but the contents of the rest of the office were removed to an old house in Scotland Yard, where they remained, and suffered still further injury from wet, till 1819, when it became necessary to pull down the last-named house; and the papers were again removed to another old house in Great George Street, in which and in the Treasury Gallery they are now deposited. It will be readily believed that the various casualties to which they have been thus exposed have led to serious loss and injury. In the last session of parliament a plan was approved, and a vote passed, for erecting a new fire-proof building for the reception of the state papers, adjoining to St. James's Park, at the north end of Duke Street. This building is now in progress, and affords good hope that these historical treasures will be rescued from further devastation. In the year 1764, Sir Joseph Ayloffe, Dr. Andrew Coltee Ducarel, and Thomas Astle, Esq., all antiquaries of considerable note, presented to Mr. George Grenville (then one of the secretaries of state) a memorial, representing the bad condition of the State Papers, and the want of indexes and calendars, and proposing to undertake the principal labour of methodising, regulating, digesting, arranging, and binding them, and of making proper catalogues, calendars, and indexes. Sir J. Ayloffe, Dr. Ducarel, and Mr. Astle, received a commission from the crown accordingly, which continued in force till 1800; with no other change, than that the vacancy made by Sir J. Ayloffe's death, in 1781, was filled by John Topham, Esq.; and that caused by the decease of Dr. Ducarel, in 1789, was supplied by Thomas Astle, jun., Esq. But though this commission was thus in existence for thirty-six years, it cannot be asserted that there remain any great traces of the constancy of their labours, nor denied, that their arrangements were very superficially and incorrectly performed. In 1800 this commission was revoked, and a small establishment of clerks was allowed to the keeper of State Pa-

pers, to carry on the necessary work under his control. Since that period, great progress has been made in rendering the valuable documents of this collection accessible to those who have occasion to refer to them. In 1825 his late majesty issued the commission which is printed at the commencement of this volume. Under this commission it was found, that though much had been done in arranging the papers in the office, yet those of earliest date had not been the first objects of attention, and that there remained a very large mass of valuable papers, of the reigns of Henry VIII. and his three children, without assortment, without index, or any other means of reference, and many of them in a great state of decay. It was resolved to proceed chronologically in the execution of the commission; and the first step taken under it, therefore, was to direct the assortment of the whole of the papers of those four reigns, and the preparation of calendars (divided according to the subject-matter), in the first instance, of those of the reign of Henry VIII. The difficulty of this task can only be estimated by those who know that, before 1528, the instances are rare of any letter bearing the date of the year; and that it was not till the close of Henry's time that the practice of giving such a date became by any means common: so that it was generally necessary to arrive at the dates by inference, either from the subject-matter of the letter, or from some extrinsic circumstances. And this difficulty was frequently increased by the errors committed by those who had undertaken the task of arrangement, either in the reign of James I. or in that of George III. The difficulty has, however, been surmounted; and there is not now in the office a single paper of Henry's reign which is not arranged both chronologically and according to the subject to which it relates. And it will be obvious that in making this arrangement for the first period, much has, of necessity, been incidentally done with respect to the subsequent reigns. The table of contents which will be prefixed to each part of the work will distinguish what portion of the date of each letter is fixed by the writer, and what is supplied either from inference or conjecture; the latter being included between brackets. The commissioners, having determined to confine their publication, in the first instance, to the reign of Henry VIII., next proceeded to consider how the papers of that date could be best arranged. If they had been published in one chronological series, letters on the same subject would frequently be placed at such a distance from each other, and so intermixed with matter wholly irrelevant, as to perplex the general reader, and to offend one who should be in the pursuit of information on one particular subject. It was therefore determined to classify the papers; and the following division was, after much consideration, agreed on, as that best adapted for this reign:—I. The correspondence between the king and Cardinal Wolsey. II. That between the king and his other ministers at home. III. That between the governments of England and Ireland. IV. That between the government and the king's representatives on the Scottish border. V. That between the government and the king's representatives at Calais and its dependencies. VI. That between the court of England and foreign courts, each forming a separate subdivision. VII. Miscellaneous. It was further resolved to select, under these heads, not only papers of historical interest, but whatever might throw light on the religion, the morals, the manners, the habits, the naval

or military history, the commerce, or the literature of the day.

Such is the work before us, which having thus explained, we shall, for the present, quote only one extraordinary letter: it is from the Duke of Norfolk to the king, upon the commitment of his near relatives to the Tower for their part in the affair of Ann Boleyn.

"Most noble and gracious soverayne lord. Yesterday came to my knowledge, that myn ungracious mother in lawe, myn unhappy brother, and his wiff, with my lewde suster off Brydgewater, wer committed to the Towre; wich, by long experience, knowyng your accustomed equete and justice, used to all your subjectes, am sewer is not done, but for som their fals and traytorous procedynges agaynst your royall majestie. Which, revolvyng in my mynd, with also the most abhomyable dedes done by 2 of my niesys agaynst your highnes, hath brought me in to the grettest perplexite, that ever poure wretche was in; fearyng that your majestie, havyng so oftone, and by so many of my kyn, bene thus falsly and traytorously handled, myght not only conseyye a displeasure in your hert agaynst me, and all other of that kyn, but also, in manner, abhorre to here speke of any off the same. Wherefor, most gracious soverayne lord, prostrate at your fete, most humble I besече your majeste to call to your remembrance, that a gret part of this mater is come to light by my declaration to your majeste, accordyng to my bounden dutie, off the wordes spoken to me, by my mother in lawe, when your highnes sent me to Lambithe to serche Derhams coffers; without the wich I thynke she had not be further examyned, nor consequently her ungracious chylterne. Wich my trew procedynges towards your majeste consydered, and also the small love my two fals traytorous niesys, and my mother in lawe, have borne unto me, doth put me in som hope that your highnes woll not conseyye any displeasure in your most jantle hert agaynst me; that, God knoweth, never did thynk thought, wich myght be to your discontentation. Wherefor, effsonys prostrate ay your royall fete, most humble I besече your majeste, that by suche, as it shall please you to commande, I may be advertised playnly, how your highnes doth way your favour towards me; assewryng your highnes that onles I may knowe your majeste to contynem my gode and gracious lord, as ye wer before their offensys committed, I shall never desire to lyve in this worlde any lenger, but shortly to fynishe this transitory lyff; as God knoweth, who send your majeste the accomplishments of your most noble hartes desires. Scribled at Kenyngdale Lodge, the 15th day of Desember, with the hande off your most humble servant and subject.

(Signed) T. NORFOLKE."

All the letters relative to the proceedings against Ann Boleyn are deeply interesting, not only from their detailing the tragic events connected with that memorable transaction, but from their shewing how the laws, or rather the king's commands, were administered, and incidentally, the state of families, and their mode of living at the time. Among other documents we have the "*Charges against the Duke of Norfolk and Earl of Surrey*."—If a man cumyng of the colaterall lyne to the heyre off the crown, who ought not to beare tharmes of England but on the seconde quarter, with the difference of theyre auncestre, doo presume to chaunge his right place, and beare them in the first quarter, leaving out the true difference of thanuncestre, and in the lieu therof, use the very plase only of the heire masle apparant;

how thys mans intent is to be juggyd; and whether thys importe any daunger, peril, or slaundre to the title of the prince, or very heire apparent; and howe it wayeth in our lawes. If a man presume to take into his armes an olde cote of the crown, whyche hys avnecster never bare, nor he of ryght ought to bear, and use it without difference; whither it maye be to the peril or slaundre of the very heire of the crown, or be taken to tende to his disturbance in the same; and in what peril they be that consent that he shuld soo doo. If a man compassing with hymselfe to governe the realme do actually goo about to rule the kinge, and shuld, for that purpose, advise his daughter or syster to become his harlot, thynkyng thereby to bring it to passe, and soo wolde rule bothe fader and soom, as by thys nexte artycle dothe more appere; whatt thys importyth. If a man saye thys wordes,—‘If the king dye, who shuld have the rule of the prince but my father or I,’ what it importeth? The depraving of the kinges counsaile. If a man shal saye thys wordes of a [man] or woman of the realme,—‘If the king were dede, I shuld shortly shitt him upp,’ what it importeth? If a man, provoked and compelled by his deuntie of allegiance, shal declare such matier as he herethe touching the king, and shall afre be continually threatened by the person] accused, to be killed or hurte for it; what it importeth? If a man take upon him to use himselfe in his lordshipp, or to kepe ples himselfe free waren in his groun[ds, without] lycence; what it importeth? If a subject presume without lycence to] gyve armes to straungers; what it importeth.]

From the following paper,—being “a brigdment of all such billes, warrauntes, letters, and other writtings, to the number of fourescore and six, whiche the kinges majestie caused me, William Clere, to stampe with his highnes secrete stampp, at dyverse tymes and places in this moneth of Januarie, Anno 38^{to} Regni dicti Regis nostri Henrici Octavi, &c., in the presence of Sir Anthonie Denny, Knight, and Mr. John Gate, Esquier;”—we copy a few entries.

“A warraunt for a diete of 26s. 8d. a daie for Mr. Richard Morison, sent ambassadour into Denmarke, and for 5s. a daie for Jaques Granada, pensioner, appointed to beare him companie; whereof there was an other bill signed at Westminster the 28th of December, which was cancelled. Preferred by Mr. Secretarie Pagett.”

“A licence for Edward Warner to transport eight hundred tonnes of beere beyonde the seas. Preferred by Mr. Secretarie Pagett.”

“A pasport for Monsieur le Baron de St. Blanche, a Frenchman, with his servants, two horses, and 12 mastive dogges. Preferred by Mr. Secretarie Pagett.”

“A pasport for Sir John de Leuclerc, your majesties gardynier, whom your highnes sendeth presently into France, for certain trees and grafes. Preferred by Mr. Secretarie Pagett.”

“A letter to geve thanks unto for certain apple trees and grafes, whiche he lately sent unto your majestie out of France, and prairie him to helpp and assiste the saide Sir John, whom your highnes sendeth thither for that purpose. Preferred by Mr. Secretarie Pagett.”

“Richard Newport and John Holte to be my lordes princes tailours, and have the wages of 6d. a daie, and their lyverie cootes yerely, from Michaelmas last past, during their lyves, and the longer lyver of either of them. At the sute of Mr. Harbert.”

“Your majesties last will and testament, bearing date at Westminster, the thirtieth daie of December last past, written in a booke of paper, signed above in the beginning, and beneth in thende, and sealed with the signet in the presence of the Erle of Hertforde, Mr. Secretarie Pagett, Mr. Denny, and Mr. Harbert, and also in the presence of certain other persons, whos names ar subscribed with their own handes, as witnesses to the same; whiche testament your majestie delyvered then, in our sightes, with your own hande, to the saide Erle of Hertforde, as your own dede, last will, and testament, revoking and annulling all other your highnes former willes and testamentes.

“(Signed) W. CLERC.”

“A comission to my Lorde of Hertforde, my Lord Privei Seale, &c. to pronounce in the parliament house, your majesties assent for thateindour of the Duke of Norfolk, by acte of parliament. Preferred by Mr. Secretarie Pagett.

“(Signed) W. CLERC.”

The immediate death of Henry saved the duke, and put an end to stamped signatures.

Calmuc Tartary; or, a Journey from Sarepta to several Calmuc Hordes of the Astracan Government; from May 26 to August 21, 1823; undertaken on behalf of the Russian Bible Society. By Henry Augustus Zwick and John Golfrid Schill. 12mo. pp. 262. London, 1831. Holdsworth and Ball.

This little volume contains much interesting intelligence respecting the Calmucs; and its statements will not be considered less deserving of attention from their being combined with the efforts to diffuse Christianity throughout these wild and wandering tribes, who inhabit the steppes on both sides of the Volga and northward of the Black Sea and Caucasian chain.

After the peace of Hubertsburg in 1763, a Moravian mission was established at Sarepta (at the confluence of the Sarpa and Volga), and laboured to 1816, by translating and circulating the Bible, and other zealous efforts, to propagate the Gospel among the surrounding heathens, whose prince, Thummen, did not discountenance their proceedings. On his death, July 11, 1816, his son and successor, Schwedschal, however, was found to be hostile,—“as little as he honoured the priests, (for he had reduced their number from 800 to 250,) he would not willingly either hear or speak of Christianity.” Individuals were nevertheless converted; and about 1820-1-2, the Missionary Schill, and some of his native disciples, were established near Sarepta. In 1823, on the 12th of October, “fifteen Calmucs from the Derbodian tribe, headed by a priest, made a plundering incursion upon their believing countrymen. Lurum escaped with difficulty from their hands. Nothing remained for the oppressed, but to put themselves under Russian protection, at Zaritzyn. Sodnom and his brother were baptized there, into the orthodox Greek church (in November), upon application to the patriarch. So ended the attempts of the brethren of Sarepta for the conversion of the Calmucs! And this too at a time, when the colony itself had lost two-thirds of its dwellings, by a fire on the 9th of August preceding. Before this misfortune, and during the residence of the believing Calmucs in their neighbourhood, assistance had kindly been offered to them, for the furtherance of the work amongst the five hordes of wandering Moguls. The Petersburg Bible Society, at that time zealously active, had sent to the brethren at Sarepta, in the year 1822, a considerable number of copies of the Calmuc Gospel of Matthew, and other small

Christian tracts, with a commission to get them distributed by brethren sent out for the purpose. This was the origin of the journey, on behalf of the Petersburg Bible Society, of which the account is now presented to the reader. Detached portions, contained in the letters of brother Zwick, have already been published in the Memoirs of the United Brethren (for 1823, chapter 6, and for 1824, chapter 1). It is here given as a whole; and its connexion with the preceding labours of the brethren amongst the Calmucs appears from this sketch.”

The journeys performed include visits to the Torgud horde, the Erkedan horde, the Yandykschan horde, the Baganzokhan horde, the Coschudan horde; with accounts of their princes, and their camps where the travellers resided. And from these we have chosen the following characteristic sketches.

“The steppes in the government of Astracan, extending northward from the Caspian Sea, on both sides of the Volga, over which the Calmucs and Tartars wander for pasture, are amongst the most desert parts of the Russian empire. The soil consists almost entirely of yellow clay, without stones, and abundantly impregnated with various salts. This fact, as well as the pits and salt lakes, and the great quantity of unfossilised shells still to be found on the surface of the earth, confirms the opinion of some of the learned, that these steppes were formerly the bottom of a sea, which, in some convulsion of nature, has made its way into the Mediterranean, by the Straits of Marmora. Supposing this to have been the case, the Caspian, the sea of Asoph, the Black Sea, and all the other seas in the neighbourhood, as being the deepest parts of that primitive ocean, remained when the waters had elsewhere run off. Except Mount Bogdo (which is noble), there are no mountains amongst these steppes; they seldom, however, present a complete plain, but are more or less hilly, alternately rising gently, and again falling in valleys, so that the prospect is always confined, and seldom allows a view of many miles in extent. Vegetation is exceedingly scanty, consisting chiefly of low-growing wormwood, interspersed with tufts of grass, which never fully cover the ground, or form a uniform turf; these two principal productions of the steppes growing in solitary bunches, between which the yellow ground is seen on all sides. In the valleys, there are here and there places more fertile, but they are commonly covered with salt herbs, fit only for camels. Many parts of the steppes are adorned, in spring, with the brilliant flowers of the iris, the tulip, and other bulbous-rooted plants, till the raging heat of the sun, which is intercepted by no hill or tree, together with the scarcity of rain during this scorching heat, kills them all.

“The animals inhabiting these steppes, between the Taik and the Volga, are wild horses, abundance of antelopes (antelopa sagax), foxes, wolves, the dipus jerboa, and the mus jaculans. Serpents and lizards are very common. There are no bees, nor any of those insects which are beneficial to man, but many of those which are hurtful. Swarms of those locusts which devastate whole provinces (for example), and other less formidable varieties of the same family, have their birth here, and often darken the air with their rustling armies, laying waste wherever they settle. Scorpions, I believe, are confined to Mount Bogdo; but millipedes, six or eight inches long (scolopendra millepes), tarantula (aranea tarantula), and the still more poisonous scorpion-spider, which the Calmucs

call the black widow (belbussun chàrra), are every where to be met with, and are much dreaded. These steppes are, on the whole, rich in objects which would be welcome to the cabinet of the naturalist; but on account of their difficulty of access (which even Asiatic hospitality cannot remedy), they are seldom visited by Europeans, except by the few whose office and duty compel them. In a desert, where for a day's journey together you find neither the habitation of man, nor a pool of water, where the pastoral tribes continually change their position, the traveller is in danger of perishing in the wilderness, if he be not provided with an experienced guide. The Russian cattle-dealers, and pedlars, who are induced, by the love of gain, to overlook danger and toil and wants of various kinds, are the only people who are occasionally tempted to enter these deserts. The native inhabitants are Moguls, Tartars, Kirguses, and pastoral Cossacks. The wealth of this nation consists in their camels, horses, oxen, sheep, and goats: these supply all their wants, or the means of procuring from merchants what else they require. The Calmucs, to whom we were directing our steps, are divided into five hordes, — in the Mogul language, *orda*. These are the Derbodian (the nearest to Sarepta), the Torgudan, the Erkedian, the Baganzokhan, and the Coschudan, each under its own khan or chief. The two first reside usually on the east of the Don and Sarpa; the two next between the Sarpa and Volga; and the last on the Aktubak, on this side of the Volga. The winter quarters of some extend much farther, for in the winter the Calmucs drive their herds from the steppes, and withdraw to regions better furnished with water. The Derbodians to the Kuma, the Erkedians to the well-wooded shores of the Caspian above Kislár — one part of the Torgudans (the Yandykushes) to the same neighbourhood, while the other division, under the Khans Erdeni and Zerren Ubaschi, remain in the Sarpa marshes. The camps of the two Tartarian princes, just mentioned, were our first destination, after we had entered the steppes."

On coming to Prince Erdeni's camp, of about 100 tents, the writer says —

"Having learnt from the Calmucs, that the day of our arrival (the 2d of June) was marked as fortunate in their astrological kalendar, we hastened to make our first visit to the prince the same evening. When we approached the tent, a servant came out to meet us, and inquired what we wanted. We desired to be announced as people who had brought letters from the capital to the prince; upon which we were readily admitted. We drew near to the tent from the right side, according to the Calmuc custom; for it is considered unmanly to advance directly to the door, or to approach from the left side. We also took care not to tread on the threshold, an old Mogul ceremonial, which Ruisbroek observed in the camp of Monketummer. We made the usual salutation to the prince — *Mende ssun tabe tiniger buis ta?* 'Are you quite hale and well?' To which he replied, '*Munde*' (well); after which we were obliged to sit cross-legged upon a carpet, in the Asiatic fashion. The prince sat in the same position, on his cushion in the interior of the tent, by his wife Dellek; on their left was the little prince Raschi Sangdschai Dorische, attended by his nurse. Erdeni is in his forty-second year, of a short squat figure, and good countenance. He is intelligent, good-natured, lively, and agreeable. When we entered he was playing on the Dom-

ber, or Calmuc guitar. His wife, Dellek, is six-and-twenty, of a robust figure, and truly Calmuc face, with prominent cheek-bones. The prince was dressed in a short Calmuc coat of blue cloth, white trousers, a mottled silk waistcoat, and a thick velvet cap trimmed with sable, and ornamented with a red tassel and gold loop. The princess wore a blue and white dress, over a red silk petticoat ornamented with gold flowers; she had on her head a high square Calmuc cap of Persian gold muslin, trimmed (like her husband's) with sable, and with a large silk tassel. The tent was about ten yards in diameter, and as many in height, and furnished all round, in the inside, with carpets, for the accommodation of visitors. Opposite to the door was the prince's throne or cushion, about an ell high, and covered with green cotton, and over it a kind of canopy of the same material. On each side was suspended an image; the left represented one of their dreadful idols, *Bansarakza*; the right was a collection of astrological circles, and many figures of different colours. Both were designed for the protection of the young prince, and to shield him from evil. To the left of the prince's couch was the altar, with a bench in front of it, and on the altar were silver vessels, with rice and other offerings; behind it a number of chests piled upon one another, and covered with a Persian cloth. Above was a wooden shrine, with a well-formed gilt image of one of their principal idol-deities, *Schagdschamuni*, the founder of their religion. On the right of the prince there was also a heap of chests, covered with Persian cloth, on which stood a few trinket-boxes belonging to the princess. These chests probably contained the valuables of the royal family; and those on the left of the throne the sacred writings, the idols, and other things pertaining to the altar. In the middle of the tent there was a hearth, with a cresset and a common tea-kettle; on the left of the door stood a few pails and cans ornamented with brass hoops, containing sour mares' milk, or *tschigan*, the chief subsistence of the Calmucs at this time of the year."

Of the Buddh religion among the Calmucs the description is curious.

"Buddhaism knows nothing of one Almighty God, the Maker of heaven and earth; in its creed, God is one with the world, and every thing was produced out 'of the eternal existence of the universe.' From infinite space (in the Mogul language, *chagossun agur*), every thing that is and was, material and immaterial, animate and inanimate, arose by circular motion! Highest in the scale of spiritual existence, is Buddha (in the Calmuc, *Burchen*), the divine being, who is manifested in many Buddhas, or *Burchens*, some complete, but most of them incomplete. Next in order are the six classes of pure spirits (*Tangri*), amongst whom is *Chormuzd*, the guardian angel of the earth; the impure and unfriendly spirits (*Assuri*); the pure inhabiting the summit, the impure foot of Mount Summer, in the centre of the earth's surface, and waging ceaseless war against one another. These are followed by men and terrestrial animals, and these again by the monsters of purgatory (*Birid*), and the hellish brood of the interior of the earth. These six classes of living beings continue in regular and unalterable order, that is to say, in a regular gradation of good and bad; but the separate individuals of each class, in the perpetual transmigration of souls which takes place, change from one class to another. This circle of migration is called, by a metaphorical image, *Ortschilang*, the infinite stormy ocean.

On its shore, that is exempt from farther migration, are the complete Buddhas. All other beings, from the highest of the *Tangri*, to the lowest of the hellish monsters, are destined to reach the shore from the *Ortschilang*, that is, to rise by transmigration to the ranks of Buddhas. If this should be accomplished by all, in the *Galap* or *Kalpa* (the complete period containing one million years): if all creatures have become united with Buddha, then Buddha himself is to be again swallowed up in the eternal and original universe. We are now in the fourth period, under the direction of the Buddha *Schagdschamuni*. At its commencement, this god left his divine abode, and was born in the kingdom of *Magad*, in India, that he might be an instructor and saviour of all beings, by freeing them from the *Ortschilang*. Eighty years after, when he had perfected himself as a Buddha, he left this disguise, to govern the world for a period of a thousand years. He sent the divine *Chomschin-Bodhissadao*, into the snowy *Tangut* (or *Thibet*), to whom he imparted his instructions, and particularly the formula *Om-ma-ni-pad mel-chum*, the meaning of which nobody has ever revealed: it is, however, the root of all knowledge, the path of salvation for all creatures; and the mere repetition of it, though it be but *once*, is an infinite merit in the estimation of the Buddha *Shankiamuni*. *Chomschin* is the most revered of all the Buddhas in *Thibet* (except *Schagdschamuni* himself), since it was he who undertook the conversion of the nation, and introduced the form of prayer, which is for ever on the lips of all the Buddhists. He is at all times incarnate in the person of the *Dalai Lama*, who lives (as *Chomschin* once did in his own person) in a temple on the *Thibetian Mount Putala*, where he receives divine honours. Another *Bogdo*, or grand Lama, (a title which is taken by all the high priests of *Thibet*), lives at *Teschilunbo*, and is also an incarnate Buddha; indeed, the soul of a Buddha, or *Burchan*, is considered to be united to every Lama. The *Gellongs* also, and the khans, or princes, have souls of a higher order; the 'blacks,' or common people, of an inferior; but all souls, in the process of transmigration, may rise by good works, or fall by bad. Self-inflicted tortures and penance, such as the Hindostan *fakirs* endure, are not accounted meritorious by the Buddhist, as they are by the disciples of *Brama*; but good works of mercy towards all living creatures, without limit or exception, such as preserving the life of an animal instead of putting it to death; also the strictest observance of the written rules, and more particularly the frequent repetition of the above-mentioned form of prayer, and a great veneration for the priests. The three costly jewels (*Ardani*), or the summary of all that deserves respect, according to the doctrine of the Buddhist priests, are *Burchan*, religion, and the ecclesiastical order; and these three are all united in the Lama. The poor man is accordingly directed to reduce his complex system of theology into an attachment to the three jewels. To this is added many a popular superstition, handed down by the poets, of *Tangris* and *Assuris*, domestic and mountain spirits, dwelling in mountains and streams, and interfering, with a beneficent or malicious influence, in all human affairs; of the fabulous *Mount Summer* in the centre of the surface of the earth, surrounded by seven golden hills and four continents, some inhabited by men, and some by creatures resembling men, of different forms and habits of life; of the earthly paradise (or the kingdom of *Suckawadi*), west of *Thibet*, the heaven of

distinguished saints, who have risen to the rank of imperfect Buddhas, and can only descend to earthly existence, in the person of a Khan, or a Lama; of the dwelling of the Asuri (Erlík-Chan) in the interior of the earth, in a palace with sixteen iron walls, surrounded by the purgatorial fires of Birid, and of the hell beneath, &c. The ecclesiastics of this religion are high priests or Lamas, priests or Gellongs, Gezulls or ministers, and Manschi or pupils: they are all unmarried, and are revered by the common people, as beings of a higher order. Their learning, amongst the Calmucs at least, is confined to reading prayers and holy writings in the Thibet language, which few of them understand. They are very numerous in all the hordes."

These quotations will show the nature of the book; and we shall only add, that in other places the missionaries were not very kindly treated, that in none were they allowed to distribute their books, and that on their return they found Sarepta in ruins from a recent conflagration.

Cuvier's Animal Kingdom: with additional Descriptions by E. Griffith and E. Pidgeon. Vol. IX. Class Reptilia. London, 1831. Whittaker and Co.

BEFORE the progress of knowledge banished the wild dreams of imagination from the regions of science, the history of reptiles was a series of the most romantic fictions ever devised by the human fancy. The total dissimilarity in physical conformation, in habits, in residence, and in vital principle, between these animals and the classes with which we are most familiar, became the pregnant source of fables, some disgustingly absurd, but others rich in all the interest which exuberant ingenuity could supply. As if the almost infinite variety of forms which nature exhibits in the reptile kingdom had not been sufficient, poetic philosophers and philosophic poets taxed their powers of invention to devise new combinations equally whimsical and formidable; dragons, griffins, basilisks, serpents with flowing beards, and hydras with innumerable heads, were described as the inhabitants of remote regions; and grave writers, nay even venerable fathers of the church, asseverated that they had themselves seen these fearful monsters. The universal dread of the powerful crocodile and poisonous serpent induced the world to lend a credulous ear to these extraordinary narratives,—for terror is always the most prolific source of credulity. It is true that these creations of sportive or distorted fancy have been long since consigned to the science of heraldry, there to abide for ever with the generations of red lions, blue boars, and all the other monstrosities which have been taken under the special protection of the college of arms; but other tales, equally groundless and equally absurd, still receive ready credence. Even at the present day, the accounts of reptiles, in many of our most popular works, merit to be ranked as the Apocrypha of Natural History.

Superstition has lent its aid to the propagation of these fables: the Septuagint translators of the Old Testament having no better word to express their idea of the animal that tempted Eve, called the Hebrew *nachash* "a serpent," and in this interpretation have been followed by all subsequent commentators. Of course, when the serpent became in men's imagination the embodied representation of the principle of evil, there was no story of its powers too extravagant to be believed, no exaggeration of its mischievous propensities too outrageous for

human credulity. In another part of the world veneration produced the same effects that fear had caused in Palestine: the ancient Egyptians saw in the serpent casting its slough, and renewing, as it were, the vigour and brilliancy of youth, a lively representation of those great periodic revolutions to which they believed the universe subject. With them the serpent typified the productive powers of nature; when coiled up it represented the great cycle, after the termination of which "a new heaven and a new earth" should be prepared for a new generation of beings. The formidable powers possessed by the animals themselves, their poisonous bite, their muscular energy, and their long retention of vitality, would have been sufficient, in an age of ignorance, to produce countless legends; but when to these were added the character of Satan in one country, and the wild speculations about eternity in another, while in a later generation all these notions were mixed together in inextricable confusion, we cannot be surprised that this portion of natural history should become a mass of fables far more extravagant than Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. The nature of human credulity, the causes by which it is influenced, and the effects it has produced on men's thoughts and actions, is a subject that has never been investigated proportionately to its merits; but we must unwillingly defer our observations on the topic until some more favourable opportunity shall arise, and proceed to lay before our readers a brief analysis of the orderly system into which Baron Cuvier has formed this interesting but difficult department of natural science.

The baron's entire system in the arrangement of the animal kingdom is, as we have said in a former number, based on the peculiarities of organisation belonging to the several classes of animated beings: he shews how the vital principle and the habits of life are dependent on the varieties which nature has made in the respiratory, medullary, muscular, and circulating systems; and, as nature seems to have observed some general law in the arrangement of the bony skeleton and the disposition of the organs of sensation, he makes this very intelligible basis the foundation on which the history of peculiar structure should be placed. The first and most obvious characteristic of the reptile world is the coldness of their blood, and the languidness of its circulation; the heart, which, in the higher classes of animals, impregnates the blood with vital air, receives but a small portion of that which circulates through reptiles,—hence it is feebly oxygenated and slowly propelled. In the mammalia and aves, the brain is the centre of the nervous system, and there the vital principle seems to be aggregated; but in reptiles there is little or no centralisation of life, and irritability seems equally diffused over every portion of their system; hence they retain life, or at least the appearance of vital motion, under circumstances apparently incredible. A tortoise has been known to live eighteen days after its brain was removed; a salamander lived several months after the head was taken off, effusion of blood being prevented by a ligature tied tightly round the neck. The respiratory system in reptiles is remarkably simple; as they do not want atmospheric air to oxygenate the blood, they could not use the complicated and powerful organisation with which other animals are supplied; hence we find that these animals retain life when almost wholly deprived of air. Toads have been found alive in the centre of the hardest rocks; vipers have

lived for months shut up in close boxes. The last peculiarity of the reptile race which we shall notice, is their power of re-producing certain parts, such as the tail, the feet, &c. when they have been lost. This fact seems to have been known from the earliest ages, and is not the least extraordinary of the characteristics belonging to this wonderful class.

Notwithstanding all the varieties of shape, size, and habitation, in the reptile kingdom, these general principles will be found to pervade the entire, and therefore are the points which the zoological student should imprint most carefully on his memory. The varieties of the species may then be easily acquired, for the causes which produce the difference will be understood.

The elucidations added by the translators in the present volume are as valuable as those in the preceding. They have the additional recommendation of novelty; for the reptile kingdom has been greatly neglected by British zoologists. On the nature of serpents and their poison, more especially, they have collected a vast mass of useful information, derived from the most authentic sources. The illustrations fully maintain the character of excellence which those in the former parts obtained; and, on the whole, the volume now before us is worthy of forming a part of the great work on zoology, which the spirited proprietors have projected, and now partly executed.

We have just received Part XXVIII. of this valuable work, Part I. of *Insecta*, of which we shall take an early notice.

Waverley Novels, Vol. XXIV. The Pirate, Vol. I. Edinburgh, 1831, Cadell; London, Whittaker.

THERE is nothing very striking in the preface to the *Pirate*, only that Sir Walter throws the peculiar charm of his style round the account of a voyage with the commissioners of the light-houses, which first suggested the idea of the *Pirate*. The notes are very various and interesting: we select from them two anecdotes; and preface the first by observing, that the Picts are supposed to be endowed with supernatural life and powers.

About twenty years ago, a missionary clergyman had taken the resolution of traversing those wild islands, where he supposed there might be a lack of religious instruction, which he believed himself capable of supplying. After being some days at sea in an open boat, he arrived at North Ronaldshaw, where his appearance excited great speculation. He was a very little man, dark-complexioned, and from the fatigue he had sustained in removing from one island to another, appeared before them ill-dressed and unshaved; so that the inhabitants set him down as one of the ancient Picts, or, as they call them with the usual strong guttural, Peghts. How they might have received the poor preacher in this character, was at least dubious; and the school-master of the parish, who had given quarters to the fatigued traveller, set off to consult with Mr. S—, the able and ingenious engineer of the Scottish light-house service, who chanced to be on the island. As his skill and knowledge were in the highest repute, it was conceived that Mr. S— could decide at once whether the stranger was a Peght, or ought to be treated as such. Mr. S— was so good-natured as to attend the summons, with the view of rendering the preacher some service. The poor missionary, who had watched for three nights, was now fast asleep, little dreaming what odious suspicions were current respecting him. The

inhabitants were assembled round the door. Mr. S., understanding the traveller's condition, declined disturbing him; upon which the islanders produced a pair of very little uncouth-looking boots, with prodigiously thick soles, and appealed to him whether it was possible such articles of raiment could belong to any one but a Peght. Mr. S., finding the prejudices of the natives so strong, was induced to enter the sleeping apartment of the traveller, and was surprised to recognise in the supposed Peght a person whom he had known in his worldly profession of an Edinburgh shopkeeper, before he had assumed his present vocation. Of course he was enabled to refute all suspicions of Peghtism."

The next is also characteristic.

"The ancient Zetlander looked upon the sea as the provider of his living, not only by the plenty produced by the fishings, but by the spoil of wrecks. Some particular islands have fallen off very considerably in their rent, since the commissioners of the light-houses have ordered lights on the Isle of Sanda and the Pentland Skerries. A gentleman, familiar with those seas, expressed surprise at seeing the farmer of one of the isles in a boat with a very old pair of sails. 'Had it been His will'—said the man, with an affected deference to Providence, very inconsistent with the sentiment of his speech—'Had it been *His* will that light had not been placed yonder, I would have had enough of new sails last winter.'"

Bogle Corbet; or, the Emigrants.

[Second Notice.]

WE now, according to our last week's promise, resume these volumes, with a view to collect together some of the most striking passages relative to emigration.

"Why, for example, should there be such a total absence of all arrangement at home, that in the colonial office itself there is no department which can furnish the slightest information respecting the colonial lands open for settlement? And yet emigration, so long as we have colonies, ought ever to obtain no inconsiderable degree of attention from government. The formation of an institution to supply this desideratum might be accomplished for little more expense to the nation than the cost of a single master in chancery. Let but diagrams and maps of the townships and colonies be lodged in every custom-house of the United Kingdom, to be from time to time amended as the lots are successively taken up; the emigrant, by consulting them, would be enabled to make a contingent selection of his location before his departure, and much of that uncertainty would be obviated which hangs so gloomily before him as he quits his native land. Why, also, should not the colonial lands have a specific value set upon them?—but, instead of money-price, a labour-rate? Nothing can be more erroneous in principle, or jejune in conception, than the system in practice. For example, occasionally great public works are undertaken in the colonies, such as the Rideau canal in this province,* vast sums are drawn from the United Kingdom to pay for them; why, instead of offering them to be executed by contract, like the works in an old country, are the public lands not valued to those who receive grants, and so many days' labour on such works required in lieu of payment? The main expense might be thus defrayed without touching the pocket of John Bull at all. * * *

"In this country local attachments scarcely

* Upper Canada.

exist, and there is not a farm that by a little judicious negotiation may not be obtained. Land in Canada is a commodity as vendible as any other merchandise; but we bring with us Old-world notions, and require to be some time in the country before we become properly sensible of the fact.

"The turbulent argument of the tempest effectually convinced the settlers that the original design of keeping them in community until they had fixed a local habitation, was the best expedient that, in their circumstances, could be adopted. But the fault lay in their own nature, and could only be changed in its direction, not expunged. A constant yearning for something new in scene or occupation is peculiar to emigrants, whether industrious or dilatory. The same spur in the side which impels them from their native land, goads them wherever they go, and is the main cause of that restless irritation characteristic more or less of them all. While the association were busy under Andrew Gimlet in erecting the house of general shelter, all went on smoothly. The storm had silenced their crave for independence, they saw that without co-operation for some time they must incur hardships that might be lessened, and their patience and activity were commendable; but when it was finished, and their families had removed into it, new objects began to attract their attention aside from their duty, and the management of them became a task of delicacy and address. Several of the Glasgow men being artisans and craftsmen, Stockwell was intended chiefly for them, and those who might come after of the same kind. The town plot was divided into half acres, a moderate price set upon each, with the privilege of living in the shelter-house until their own should be finished, for which three months were allowed; no money was expected to be paid for these lots, but they were to give me three days' labour in the week, computed at a certain rate of wages, the other three days was for their own purposes. Except in respect to the town, no part of the land was to be sold, but cross roads were to be made through it, and it was to form them that I stipulated for their labour. The first undertaking, after having provided shelter, was the opening of these roads, and the construction of separate houses for the emigrants themselves; but they had not proceeded far in accomplishing either, when they proposed to work for me only two days. I represented to them the injury they would incur, as it would prolong the payment of their debt, and tend to increase it, by obliging them to provide for the additional day's living from their own means. But it was not until after some free altercation, that they again consented to adhere to the original plan. Indeed, no sooner was one proposal silenced, than another was ready at the back of it. When their respective cottages in the village were about finished, which the irksomeness of living in community urged them to use the utmost diligence in doing, and when the roads were shaped out, the majority came in a body with a signed request to me, praying me to take the lots that had been chosen for them in other parts of the township, and give them farms along my roads for them. To this I gave a decided negative; but it was evident, that although they submitted to the refusal, they considered themselves ill-used, and one of them had the modest absurdity to say, that after having so worked on the roads, they had surely a right to a preference. 'It may be so,' said I; 'but the land is not for sale, and you have been paid for your labour.' 'We're no' con-

testing that, Mr. Bogle Corbet,' replied one Angus M'Questein; 'but ye see it would be a convenience, and make us more obligated to you, if ye would just in a way consent.' 'Angus, I thought you not wanting in common sense: when a weaver in the Gorbals, had you any right to the webs you were employed to work?' 'But there's a wide difference, sir, between the Gorbals and this wild country, which was all ta'en from the Indians, who have the best right to the land, if any body has a right; and I am sure you would na go far ajee frae justice, if ye would think of our request.' 'Depend upon't, Angus, I shall think of it, and the reasons ye have stated to make me comply; for the king's law is here as well as in the old country; and I can assure you that I am as little disposed to indulge covetousness in Canada as I would have been in Glasgow, had you pretended such a right to any property of mine there.' Altercations of this sort, as the work of the summer proceeded, and individual character became more prominent, were vexatiously frequent. At first, when it was necessary to bring supplies from a distance, the sheltering-house was furnished in kind with whatever was requisite, and even after several families had retired to their own houses, the practice was continued to them. But as the place prospered, a storekeeper settled at Stockwell, and provided the different articles that he saw would be required; in consequence it became the practice to give orders on his store, instead of the articles, and he from time to time rendered his accounts. These orders, however, the settlers soon cunningly discovered were as good as bank notes, and it was ascertained that they were in the habit of exchanging them for articles different from those for which they were obtained. Beef was easily convertible into tea, and flour into spirits and sugar, till the increase of consumption in the necessities led to an investigation. In a word, there is something in the emigrant's condition that makes his honesty flexible, and this, among their other ever-germinating wants and fancies, constitutes the difficulty of regulating them, even when they see it is for their own benefit. When the roads were completed, I caused the men to be assembled, and inquired what they proposed to do next; but strange as it may seem, they had formed no plan. Accustomed to the superintendence of a master, it had never entered their heads to think of the future at all. Dependents of chance, they would probably have remained without reflection so long as their wants were supplied, and then they would have scattered themselves, as thoughtless of to-morrow as beasts and birds of prey when they have devoured the carcass. I was grieved at the discovery of their helplessness; it explained how so many emigrants fall into misery; and it also demonstrated how imperative it has become that government should establish some law for their regulation. Thousands on thousands annually reach Canada, undirected and unprotected, with only their own separate small means; for those who undertake to conduct them across the Atlantic are, in all that relates to settlement, as ignorant as themselves. When they reach their intended locations in the wood, many of them, in consequence, like the innocent babes, wander for a time up and down, and then die or stray away, they know not whither, and are heard of no more."

The following is a judicious remark:—

"I imagined the dulness might be brightened, and the monotony varied, merely by a regular appropriation of my time to different objects."

But a brief experience soon convinced me how difficult it is to carry such a purpose into effect. Incidents unexpectedly occur, as well as occasional visits, that disorder all systematic arrangement. Besides, the mind tires of exerting itself in leisure, and like a dwarf in a giant's robe, struggles in constant motion, but accomplishes nothing. To do much, one must have much to do."

We now close these instructive pages. As a mere novel, *Bogle Corbet* is inferior in amusement and humour to *Laverie Todd*; but as a work of information and reference, we hold it to be one of high value.

Correspondence and Diary of Dr. Doddridge.
Vol. V.

WE resume this volume for the purpose of finishing our notice, without occupying readers with further remarks.

"Of the memoranda (observes the editor) it may be desirable to speak a little more at large; they are narratives of what Dr. Doddridge considered the special dealings of Providence, with regard to himself and some persons of his acquaintance. The reader is already aware that he believed not only in the constant superintendence of God in the course of natural events, but also in an occasional direct interference of the divine power, in consequence of prayer, and on other occasions; and he will learn from a perusal of this diary, that Dr. Doddridge thought he had reason to suspect that this interference sometimes assumes a supernatural character. I am perfectly aware of the shallow sarcasms with which it is the fashion to meet every idea of this nature. On metaphysical subjects men too often reason from theories as if they were facts, and consequently become positive without being sure. Mental habit has much to do in these matters; mathematicians, and other students of the more perfect sciences, draw the magical circle of *system* according to their preconceived ideas, and forget that Nature has a world beyond it. My own attention has been principally devoted to physiological inquiries, where, as I find, in the animal organisation, some of the most essential principles inexplicable, I am ready to admit all positive results in action unquestioned. On the same grounds I am willing to confess, that I view the matter of supernatural agency as depending solely upon *evidence*, and as one in which all we can do is to scrutinise supposed facts. A belief in a preternatural influence from God was almost universal in the times of Dr. Doddridge. Many celebrated names might be referred to in support of this assertion; I will only mention two or three. Dr. Watts believed that miracles had not ceased. I have in my possession a very curious little book, relating three apparently miraculous cures. The first is a MS. in the hand of Dr. Watts, who has also added notes, confirming the second, and has written in the fly-leaf of the book, 'Modern Miracles, confirming the Gospel and the power of Christ.' It may be proper to add, that the more recent advance of science affords an explanation in these instances, which could not be before obtained; so that the belief of Dr. Watts was not credulity. Bishop Warburton had faith in a modern power of prophecy. This fact is shewn by his acute and striking observations on the *circumstantial* predictions of Rice Evans, at the time of the death of Charles the First, relative to the restoration of the monarchy and the second revolution. Dr. Johnson's opinion on the matter in question is well known; I will, however, quote his expressions, as given by Boswell.

The family ghost of the Wesleys had been mentioned, when the doctor observed: 'I am sorry John did not take more pains to inquire into the evidence for it.' Miss Seward, (with an incredulous smile,) 'What! sir, about a ghost?' Johnson, (with solemn vehemence,) 'Yes, madam; this is a question which, after five thousand years, is yet undecided; a question, whether in theology or philosophy, one of the most important that can come before the human understanding.' Dr. Jortin, the learned author of the 'Remarks on Ecclesiastical History,' may be also quoted on this occasion. After speaking of magicians, he says, 'Setting aside these sorts of divination as extremely suspicious, there remain predictions by dreams, and by sudden impulses upon persons who were not of the fraternity of impostors; these were allowed to be preternatural by many of the learned pagans, and cannot, I think, be disproved, and should not be totally rejected. If it be asked whether these dreams and impulses were caused by the immediate inspiration of God, or by the mediation of good or evil spirits, we must confess our own ignorance and incapacity to resolve the question.'"

With this explanation we shall give Dr. Doddridge's own experience, such as it was!

"*Memorable passages in Providential occurrences relating to the Wills of Pisford, as I collected them from their conversation and united testimony.*—This day I visited this pious, though poor and afflicted family; and I heard the following narrations, which I thought so remarkable that I could not forbear setting them down as circumstantially as I could recollect them. Mary Wills was converted in an extraordinary manner. Having determined to hear no more at the meeting, and even stopped her ears against the word, an occasion happened which obliged her to put her hand into her pocket, and at that moment a word came which reached her heart, and was the blessed means of bringing her home to God. Some time after, a person, jealous of the regard which a young person in the neighbourhood had for her, attempted to poison her, by putting poison into some beer which she was going to drink. In a moment she found the use of her arm taken away, when she would have lifted the beer to her head; and having attempted in vain to give it to the hogs, she threw it down into the sink. Some time afterwards Mrs. Spencer told her that the party whom she suspected had confessed to her the design of poisoning her, and that the attempt was made as above. Some time afterwards she lived in the house of a profligate fellow, who, having locked her in, attempted her chastity by violence. She prayed earnestly, and had those words given in her mind, 'Only believe, and thou shalt see the glory of God!' and immediately the ravisher fell down with an oath in his mouth, and lay as dead all night. She had extraordinary communion with God all that night and the next day; but the wretch thus struck down in the very act of his sin continued hardened, and waxed worse and worse. Being once under some doubt as to her spiritual state, she begged that God would afflict her with some sudden judgment as a token of his love. Immediately she was seized with a violent pain, and lost the use of one arm, in which she greatly rejoiced. In the night she lost the use of one side, and being brought home on horseback the next day, lay many weeks so helpless that she could scarcely turn herself in her bed; and they expected that every day would be her last. On a sudden, while her sister was standing by her, and apprehended her to be almost dying, she confessed the rashness of her former

prayer, entreated the Divine favour, and begged an immediate cure in great confidence of faith. Immediately all her bones cracked, as if they had been put in place again; and she rose up cheerfully, and in two or three sabbaths more was able to walk to Northampton, being then cured in a moment. Her sister declared she was present when this happened, and her mother was in the house during the whole progress of the affair. The family was once reduced so low that they had nothing left but a crust of bread and a little flour. The two sisters prayed for supplies; and both of them felt a strong persuasion that a brother of theirs, who lived ten miles off, would that day come to their assistance; accordingly Mary determined to make a pudding for him, but having nothing but flour, declared herself persuaded that some assistance would come for making it. Immediately after, a neighbour brought in milk, and another eggs, and before the pudding was baked, the brother came in, bringing corn and other presents, and declared he was so uneasy about them that he could not forbear coming that very day, although he had heard nothing of their difficulties, and had particular business to engage him at home. (A lamb caught in a thicket in answer to prayer;) the ewe brought a lamb every year after it.) A while after, her sister continued ill, who could think of eating nothing with pleasure but a pigeon. She went to all the persons that kept dove-houses in the town, but could get none. Returning home with a heavy heart, a pigeon flew into the house before her, which they took up and killed as a supply sent immediately from Heaven. This both the sisters and the mother also attested. As they were coming one day from Northampton, after her sister was but just recovered from a fit of dangerous sickness, they saw a cloud gathered about them, a thunder-shower came, and they were in expectation of being wet to the skin, which might have been attended with the most fatal consequences to Catherine, as being then in so bad a state of health. Mary earnestly prayed to God that he would appear for them. A wind came and broke the cloud over their heads, so that part went on the right and part on the left; it rained violently all round them, but they, to the amazement of the neighbourhood, came in dry. The mother assured me that she warmed clothes for them, expecting that they would be wet through, and saw them come home perfectly dry, when it had rained almost all around. In their late illness, which happened this winter, they were assisted in an extraordinary manner. Mary, who is a poor weakly creature, sat up with her sister seven weeks, without any sleep but on the Saturday night, and continued perfectly well; and, which is very extraordinary, their drink and their wheat, when they had but enough to last for six weeks in the winter, lasted them six months, though they ate and drank nearly as much as usual; and the miller that ground it, taking notice of their having so much more than they had bought of him, strongly suspected their dealing with some other person. In the account of this they all agreed as positively as could be, as well as in all the rest in which there was any room for their testimony. I confess I heard their stories with the utmost amazement. The persons by whom they were told are all people of eminent devotion, and of a very extraordinary life. They live retired, are continually employed in prayer, praise, and religious converse; and have, upon the whole, as much of heaven among them as I ever saw in any persons whom I have known. What shall we say to

these things? or, rather, why should we be so much astonished, considering what God has done for his people in times past, and that his power is still the same?"

We have farther accounts of this Mary Wills' "remarkable conversations;" but what we have quoted is enough; and we shall now conclude with an extract of a different kind. It is entitled—

"An account of several of those *Maxims upon which I propose to proceed in future life, under the following various characters:*" and for its single-mindedness and simplicity may well be received as a remarkable document:—

"1. *As to the conduct of every day.*—To breathe out my heart to God before I rise; to pray while dressing; to make prayer the first work, if possible, before I read one word; to make the Scriptures the first book; to do something every morning at monthly letters before breakfast; to begin every lecture in time, with the watch before me, and not to run on so far as to preclude those of the junior class; to get out soon in afternoons; to be at home at evening prayer; to expound when I can; not to exceed a limited time at a place; to be animated in conversation, providing useful materials for that purpose; to take notice of children; to keep a register of my visits; to relate religious remarks then made to the elders; to write before supper; to prepare social entertainment, and demand it; to sup moderately; to go to bed before eleven when I can; if the prayer be slightly passed over in the morning, to introduce it again in the evening; never to acquiesce merely in praying with my wife, without some fervent, though short petitions, alone; to get a little time for meditation on Friday evenings. 2. *As a Husband.*—To be more careful to keep up the spirit of religion in conversing with my wife; to avoid pettishness; to make great allowance for the tenderness of her constitution; to reflect often on her distinguished wisdom and goodness; blessing God for her; recommending her to the Divine blessing, and begging the continuance of her life, as one of the greatest blessings that life can afford, and that on which, under God, most of my own depend. 3. *As a Parent.*—To intercede for my children daily; to converse more or less about religion with each, weekly; to pray with them once a fortnight, and endeavour to dispose them for communion; to endeavour to oblige them; to drop short hints, when there is not room for long discourse; also to speak on religious subjects to the servants, at least once a fortnight. 4. *As a Tutor.*—To maintain a strict inspection; to inquire after each from his respective tutor; to have expositions, prayers, and devotional lectures, as suitable as may be; to exhort and pray with each before the vacation, where it has not yet been done; to get a society of lads established if I can. 5. *As a Pastor.*—To review the state of my flock if possible, at least in town before the vacation; to visit, exhort, and inquire into family religion, &c.; to inquire after every village, referring to the last visit in the catalogue; to pursue a plan for monthly sermons, keeping four schemes beforehand in the book of such papers. 6. *As a Correspondent.*—To be exact in the catalogue of letters with regard to dates; to review that catalogue to determine when, and in what order, to write; to guard against excessive length; to use as many assistants as I can, to get clear before vacation as far as possible. 7. *Miscellaneous matters.*—To draw up a scheme for every week, and then for every day, to be reviewed the next; to make my

will; to adjust the account of the lads' society, and to fix on thirty letters at the beginning of the month, to which one hour a day, if possible, is to be given: to read over these maxims once a month."

To resolve to make your will every month is a curious sign of the infirmity of human purpose: but we have no room for comments, and can only again speak of this work as affording abundant grounds for useful reflection, and containing a great deal to interest every intelligent mind.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

MR. MARSHALL on the origin and utility of cow-pox, with the cause of failure in the practice of vaccination. After some preliminary observations on the history of the small-pox, and the introduction of vaccination, Mr. Marshall particularly noticed the odium which attached itself to the propagators of this precautionary measure. Thirty years before its introduction by that benefactor of the human race, the late Dr. Jenner, a humble grazier in one of the English counties accidentally discovered the efficacy of inoculation for the cow-pox: in consequence of the opinions he entertained on the point, he was laughed at by the villagers, and became subject to other and more serious annoyances. The declared opinions also of Jenner himself were considered merely as the reveries of a rural enthusiast. Even that august assembly the Royal Society (we speak of it as it was constituted half a century ago), in answer to certain communications of Jenner on the subject, sarcastically hinted, that he had better not promulgate his sentiments, lest he should incur the ridicule of the scientific. Mr. Marshall paid a warm and just eulogy to the late Duke of York, who, having been made aware of the happy results of vaccination, issued a general order recommending its adoption throughout the whole of the British army; thereby securing for the discovery a certain popularity. In the course of his observations, Mr. M. directed the attention of his auditors to a statistical account of vaccination in Great Britain, as compared with other countries, from which it appeared that the annual mortality in cases of small-pox was reduced in Copenhagen from 450 to 9; Prussia, the average was as 12 to 1; Berlin, in 1819, only 25 had died, being about 1 in 8,000; Bavaria, in 11 years, only 5 persons had died; Anspach, the disease had been completely exterminated; Norwich, in one year, the small-pox cut off more persons than any disease except the plague; Edinburgh, similar havoc; London, in one year, 13,000 died; Russia, from the year 1804 to 1812, there were upwards of 1,200,000 individuals vaccinated. After noticing the causes of failure in the practice of vaccination, which embraced sundry technical details, well expounded in our medical schools, Mr. Marshall closed a very interesting lecture.

On the library-table was the exceedingly beautiful odoriferous lamp, founded upon the principles discovered by Davy and Doberienier, by the power of which bodies combine, and produce not full combustion, but still a temperature equal to incandescence, as is well known to our chemical readers. In the present instance the alcohol was aromatised, and as the spirit burnt around the ball of platina wire and sponge, the aroma was diffused through the room.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

APRIL 27th. Mr. Murchison, the president, in the chair. An extract was read from a letter of the Rev. George Greg, explanatory of certain subterraneous sounds occasionally heard at Nakoo, near Tor in Arabia; and communicated by the president. A paper was then read, "on some effects of the atmosphere in wasting the surface of buildings and rocks;" by John Phillips, Esq., curator of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, &c. Some valuable donations were received.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

JOHN BARROW, Esq. V. P. in the chair. Mr. Washington's account of Morocco was concluded: and a general view, communicated by Captain P. P. King, R.N., of his late survey of the Straits of Magellan and adjoining coasts, was begun. The first of these papers we have already noticed. The second we shall advert to when concluded. In the mean time we seize the opportunity of introducing the following intimation, for which we have not previously found space.

Royal Premium.—The President and Council give notice, that his Majesty's annual premium of fifty guineas, for the year 1831, will be given to the author of the best memoir, accompanied by sufficient plans and views, which shall describe in detail any important and unpublished discovery made by the candidate in any branch of geography—provided that the same be considered worthy of this distinction. The Council consider as coming within the meaning of this proposition—a detailed account of any excavation or research made by the candidate, the result of which is the establishment of any lost site of antiquity, and the recovery of any object sufficiently important to history, science, or the arts.

The President and Council also give notice, that his Majesty's premium of fifty guineas, for 1832, will be given to the author of the best work transmitted to the Society, of the following nature:—A Traveller's Manual—containing a clear and concise enumeration of the objects to which a geographer's attention should be especially directed; a statement of the readiest means by which the desired information in each branch may be obtained; a list of the best instruments for determining positions, measuring elevations and distances, observing magnetic phenomena, ascertaining temperature, climate, &c.; directions for adjusting the instruments, formulæ for registering the observations, and rules for working out the results;—adapted to the use, not of the general traveller alone, but also of him who, in exploring barbarous countries, may be obliged to carry and often conceal his implements. Each candidate is requested to send his dissertation privately (without his name, and, if he chooses, transcribed by another person, but revised and pointed by himself), to the secretary, on or previous to the second Monday in March of the years 1832-3 respectively, with a motto written on it; and he is at the same time to send a paper, sealed up, with the same motto on the outside, which paper shall enclose another paper, folded up and sealed, with his name written within. The papers containing the names of those candidates who shall not succeed will be destroyed unopened. And in all cases the successful competitor will be at liberty to publish his communication on his own account, under the sanction of the Society. The President and Council further give notice, that it is their intention at future

periods to propose the following as prize subjects:—An essay on the actual state of geography in its various departments, distinguishing the known from the unknown, and shewing what has been, and what remains to be done in order to render it an exact science; together with an indication of the best processes to be adopted in order to supply the several desiderata. An extensive series of geographical tables, (with reference to authorities), shewing the various names, written in the native language and character, by which the same places have been known, in different countries, and at successive periods of history. The best mechanical inventions for facilitating the acquisition of geographical knowledge, or rendering it more available to the public. Under this head may be included the simplification of instruments, more compendious methods of determining positions, and all improvements in the art of drawing and engraving maps, whereby their precision and distinctness may be increased, and greater scope and expression given to what may be called the language of topography.

NATIONAL REPOSITORY.

THE Repository of New Inventions and Improvements in the Arts, Pall Mall East, was opened on Wednesday for private view; and during the latter period of the morning, this national Institution was honoured by the attendance of a great number of persons of rank, and other patrons of the arts. This is as it should be; for the nobility and gentry of this country are more worthily employed in encouraging the useful arts and manufactures of their own nation, than in patronising those of foreign nations, which fall under the usual denomination of luxuries; and for which articles they are content to pay often double their real value at home, merely on account of their being foreign manufacture.

The articles which are strictly entitled to the name of novel inventions, are perhaps not so numerous in the present as in the last exhibition; yet it is only justice to observe, that the committee of management were unable to prepare catalogues for the opening of the gallery, through the neglect of parties, in not forwarding their specimens destined for exhibition in proper time.

The first article in the catalogue, and, in our opinion, the most important invention in the Repository at present, is the new safety-coach, invented by Mr. Daniel Stafford, of Liverpool. Both a working model in the gallery, and a full-sized four-horse stage coach, of very elegant construction, were exhibited to the visitors. This coach is built on the principle of the ordinary mail-coach, with spacious front and hind boots for luggage; but instead of the usual horizontal springs placed beneath the body, and consequently below the centre of gravity, which always renders a coach liable to overturn, from great inequalities in the road, Mr. Stafford suspends the body of his carriage considerably above the level of gravitation, even when loaded with its full complement of passengers. This is effected by fixing a transverse upright over each axle, which pedestal passes through apertures in fore and hind boots, when it carries an elliptical spring, on the top of which is attached a circular or curved block, on which another block, curved the opposite way, rests; the upper block being attached to a shelf or cornice, projecting about six inches beyond the roof at the front and back. The entire weight of the body and loading may be therefore said to work on

rollers, which can shift the centre of suspension according to the inequalities of the road, and thus preserve the body at all times in the horizontal position, so as to render it quite impossible to overturn in case of accident. It was shewn by the model, that, in the event of removing one of the hind wheels, and the carriage part falling on the axle, the body of the carriage very nearly maintains its horizontal position, and allows the passengers to alight in safety. The common inequalities of the road are provided against by the elliptical springs before mentioned, while that oscillating motion, which would result from suspending the weight on two rollers, or segments of circles, is ingeniously counteracted, by the upper block being cut horizontally near the centre, and circular near the ends. The model of this coach is highly creditable to the inventor. It is equally elegant and compact, and much more deserving the name of a safety-coach than any yet brought into use.

In the department of Mechanics there are three or four improvements in pumps, fire-escapes, paddle-wheels, and propelling apparatus. The compound paddle-wheel of Mr. Murdoch is highly ingenious; but it could not be rendered intelligible to our readers without a drawing.

Among the Fine Arts we must mention with high approbation, a plaster bronzed statue of his late majesty, in his coronation robes (size of life), by Mr. Tate, of Leicester Square. Several small models in wax, by the same artist, are also beautifully executed. Some spirited groups are modelled in clay with extraordinary delicacy by Sig. Giovanni.

In the department of Engraving, a beautiful new specimen of *grounding* (or *graining*) for steel or copper-plate engraving is exhibited by Mr. S. Russell. The Death of Cleopatra is a specimen, though far from perfect, worthy of the notice of artists. Some exceedingly fine specimens of silk and lace manufacture attracted the notice of the lady visitors, while a self-acting superb pianoforte of Rolfe's was polite enough to volunteer its services, by occasionally playing a brilliant concerto of Herz for the amusement of the company. We purpose returning to this exhibition when it is more complete.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA FOR MAY.

"'Tis most apparent that the succession of things upon the face of the earth is purely the result and effect of the vicissitude of seasons, and is as constant and certain as is the cause of that vicissitude, the sun's declination: so certain, that were a man kept for some time blindfold, in such a manner that he could have no notice how the year passed on, and were at length turned forth into the next field or garden, he would not need any other almanac to inform him what season of the year it then was."—Woodward.

THE northern regions of the earth are arrayed with the beauty of spring. The Moon exhibits a canopy of boundless azure, and the night reveals the wintry constellations sinking in the west, with the advance of those stars to the mid heaven which declare that the time of the singing of birds is come, and that the summer is advancing. The flower and the star appear each in its season, and send forth, the one its ray, and the other its fragrance, with unflinching precision. The lovely train of Flora delights the senses with its perfume and beauty; the thrush and blackbird fill the woods with melody; and Arcturus in the east, and Capella in the zenith, shed forth their brightest scintillations: the rose, the nightingale, and bright star in the hand of the Virgin, bloom, sing, and shine together; the violet from its shady bank, the lark from its "watch-tower in the

sky," send forth their tribute of odour and harmony, as the stars in the soft Pleiades faint away in the glowing twilight of the vernal eve. As the fervid heat of summer increases, and light is more copiously diffused over the northern world, the stars shine with a subdued brilliancy, the melody of the grove ceases, the Aster tribe of flowers, with their diversified colours and radiations, decorate the field and the garden, and with pure adoration expand their bright florets to receive the full effulgence of the summer's sun.

21^d 9^h 6^m—the Sun enters Gemini.

Lunar Phases and Conjunctions.

	D.	H.	M.
☾ Last Quarter in Capricornus.....	4	15	35
☾ New Moon in Aries.....	11	12	1
☾ First Quarter in Leo.....	18	4	12
☾ Full Moon in Ophiuchus.....	26	4	0

The Moon will be in conjunction with

	D.	H.	M.
Jupiter in Capricornus.....	5	3	40
Mercury in Taurus.....	12	16	15
Venus in Taurus.....	13	21	45
Mars in Gemini.....	14	14	15
Saturn in Leo.....	18	1	20

Occultation of a Double Star.—21^d—the Moon will occult the double star γ Virginis: immersion 9^h 22^m; emersion 10^h 13^m. γ Virginis is a binary system; the two stars are a little unequal in magnitude, and complete a revolution about their common centre of gravity in 708 years: they are both of a white colour.

3^d—Mercury at his greatest elongation (21^h 3') as an evening star. 14^d—stationary. 20^d—descending node. 26^d 0^h 30^m—inferior conjunction. 30^d—aphelion.

2^d—Venus in conjunction with 179 Mayer: difference of latitude 3'. 7^d—perihelion. 12^d 9^h—in conjunction with 132 Tauri. 22^d 19^h—with γ Geminorum: difference of latitude 4'. This planet continues an unfavourable telescopic object, though shedding its brilliancy over the evening landscape: its most pleasing appearances, when seen with the telescope, are when it shines as a half-moon, or is waning to a crescent form: these it will assume after the ensuing month of July; at present it is gibbous, one-sixth of its disc being defective of light.

3^d—Mars in conjunction with 5 Geminorum: difference of latitude 20'. 22^d—with 1 ω : difference of latitude 12'. 31^d—with Venus: difference of latitude 49'.

The Asteroids.

	D.	H.	M.	N.D.	D.	H.	M.
Vesta .. 4	R.A.	3	48	N.D.	16	39	
12	4	2			17	31	
20	4	16			18	18	
28	4	31			19	0	
Juno .. 4		3	31		10	46	
12	3	50			11	42	
20	4	8			12	32	
28	4	27			13	13	
Pallas .. 4		30	7		15	20	
12	20	8			16	22	
20	20	9			17	20	
28	20	8			18	12	
Ceres .. 4		21	17	S.D.	22	25	
12	21	23			22	28	
20	21	29			22	37	
28	21	33			22	53	

8^d—Jupiter in conjunction with 1 δ Capricorni: difference of latitude 30'. 11^d 23^h 30^m—in quadrature. The following will be the only visible eclipse of the satellites:—

Third Satellite, immersion 29 13 31 6

16^d 11^h 30^m—Saturn in quadrature.

5^d 4^h 45^m—Uranus in quadrature.

Deptford.

J. T. B.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex in the chair. A paper was read, entitled, on the Anatomy and Physiology of the minute and Capillary Vessels, by Marshal Hall, Esq. The object of this paper was to shew the peculiar manner in which the blood is thrown out of the arteries at their extremities into minute meshes, and taken up by the veins; and likewise to shew the varied construction of the lungs in different living creatures, in connexion with their tenacity of life. The author is of opinion that many writers on this interesting subject appear to be guided more by imagination than actual observation, so delusive are their results. With the achromatic microscope of Dollond he had pursued his researches with perfect success. After some comparative details on the minute and other vessels of various animals, such as the toad and frog, the author noticed the curious phenomenon which takes place on plunging one of the former species into water of a temperature about 120° of Fahrenheit: the animal becomes stiff, and appears to die instantly without pain. Mr. Hall, however, on application of the object-glass, in opposition to the generally received theory, observed the heart's motion—the venous, arterial, and capillary vessels all performing their separate functions. Sir M. A. Shee was introduced. The President addressed him to the effect, that he considered an honour to have been conferred on the Society by the election of an individual so distinguished as an artist, a man of letters, and President of the Royal Academy. Strangers having withdrawn, the fellows proceeded, in pursuance of a former notice, to ballot for three members of the council. On examining the lists, it was found that the gentlemen elected were George Dollond, Charles Koenig, and Fred. Daniell, Esqrs. The Transactions of several learned Societies were presented.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

ON Saturday last, being St. George's day, the Society met, pursuant to their charter, to ballot for the election of president, officers, and council for the ensuing year; H. Gurney, Esq. in the chair: after which, the members dined together at the Freemasons' Tavern. On Thursday, Mr. Gurney in the chair, the Secretary read a paper by Mr. Duppa, containing observations on one of the English articles, namely, *the*, and on pronouns mis-called articles. He observed that the Greeks and Latins had no articles; the α, η, ο, of our Greek grammars, and *hie, hec, hoc*, in Latin, being pronominal adjectives, and the same with the word *the* in English (usually termed the definite article), whenever it was used to designate any one thing as pre-eminent to others of the same kind. Mr. Duppa observed, that Dr. Johnson had censured the custom of sinking the final letter of the article in versification, but he (Mr. D.) considered that the syllable *the* could not be fully and openly pronounced without becoming a pronominal adjective, and it was only when deprived of the final letter that it was an article. A further portion was read of Mr. Grover's communication on ancient history.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

THE general anniversary meeting, for the election of council, officers, &c. for the ensuing year, took place on Thursday; the president in the chair. His lordship delivered an address replete with interesting facts and valuable lite-

rary and philological opinions. It contained a summary of the varied instances of munificent patronage afforded to literature by his late Majesty, the founder of the society; which, in justice to the memory of a sovereign whose taste and learning have not been duly known and appreciated, we hope to see laid before the public.

The secretary read a report of the last year's proceedings, with an analysis of numerous important papers that have been read before the Society.

The following noblemen and gentlemen were elected to preside over its affairs for the next year:—

President.—The Lord Bishop of Salisbury.
Vice-Presidents.—The Duke of Rutland, The Marquess of Lansdowne, the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord Bexley, the Earl of Carlisle, the Right Hon. Charles Yorke, the Right Hon. G. Agar Ellis, Colonel Fitzclarence, Archibald E. Impey, Esq., the Rev. G. Richards, D.D.

Council.—Lord Goderich, the Lord Bishop of Bristol, Lord Prudhoe, Lord Carrington, Sir Thomas Phillips, Bart., the Rev. H. H. Baber, Decimus Burton, Esq., John Calev, Esq., the Rev. R. Cattermole, the Rev. H. Clissold, W. R. Hamilton, Esq., W. Jacob, Esq., W. Jerdan, Esq., W. Martin Leake, Esq., Lewis Hayes Petit, Esq., W. Sotheby, Esq.

Treasurer.—D. Pollock, Esq., W. Tooke, Esq.

Auditors.—The Rev. H. H. Baber.

Librarian.—The Rev. R. Cattermole.

Secretary.—The Rev. H. A. Delafite.

Foreign Secretary.—The Rev. H. A. Delafite.

Accountant and Collector.—Mr. Thomas Paul.

THE LITERARY FUND.

WE see with great satisfaction, that the Lord Chancellor, Brougham, is announced to preside at the Literary Fund Anniversary, on Wednesday week. Our readers are well aware that nothing of politics mingles with this benevolent Institution; and its friends anticipate a brilliant rally of the literary and the distinguished round a chairman of such eminence for literary attainments, and *ex officio* the guardian of literary rights and property.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

WE can promise our readers much gratification from the Exhibition of the Royal Academy, which will open on Monday next, and of which we shall, as usual, give a detailed notice in our following numbers. At present, we must content ourselves with stating that Beechey has several portraits, among them those of their Majesties, that of the Queen strikingly like; Callcott, eight landscapes and sea-pieces; Leslie, "Ford's Dinner," admirable; Wilkie, two fine portraits; Landseer, three pictures, a series of "Poachers;" Collins, four coast scenes; Etty and Hilton, several scriptural and historical works; Pickersgill, lots of clever portraits; Allan, a happy re-appearance after a long absence; Newton, three pictures, one "Lear and Cordelia," particularly good; Witherington, a charming "Market Cart;" Lee, a fine landscape; Chantrey, exquisite busts of the King, the Duke of Sussex, &c. We regret to add, that Jackson and Stanfield have been so ill, that they have not been able to send any thing.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

THE well-known talents and skill of the artists who form this society are a sufficient assurance to the public of the treat which they are annually to expect. Inexhaustible as nature herself are the diversified stores which the exhibitions of the Society of Painters in Water-colours present; and we every year return to their rooms with unsated delight. In point of execution, it would seem to be impossible that they can

excel their former efforts; and yet we own it appears to us that, in the collection of this year, the paper has been more completely got rid of, and the effect of firm and solid painting more completely obtained, than in any of its predecessors.

No. 3. *Belinda*. Miss E. Sharpe.—It is not gallantry which induces, but justice which compels us, to say that this is one of the most fascinating works of art we ever beheld. Mock allegory is a subject of great difficulty; and especially when gnomes and sprites are to be mixed up with costume which, however gorgeous, is at variance with the creations of the imagination. Yet such is the skill of the fair artist, that she has rendered all her materials subservient to the purposes of art; and has embodied with the happiest effect the playful and elegant fiction of the poet.

No. 9. *English Pastoral*. G. Barrett.—It is seldom, indeed, that English landscape is seen under such a blaze of light. It is evident that it has been Mr. Barrett's object to exert his utmost power in that respect; and he has reached a climax which we could scarcely have anticipated.

No. 8. *View near Ludlow*. P. De Wint.—We hardly think that a subject was ever brought forward more replete with variety, and yet more in union with the true principles of grand composition. Of Mr. De Wint's transparent, juicy, and harmonious colouring, this, as well as all his other beautiful works in the present exhibition, is a perfect example.

No. 16. *Meyningen, Canton of Berne*. W. Evans.—Distinguished by its picturesque forms, by its colouring and effect, and by the skill of its execution.

No. 49. *The Captives*. G. Cattermole.—Those possessed of highly imaginative powers will not fail to find sufficient matter in Mr. Cattermole's works on which to exercise them. Character and chiaroscuro he supplies finely and abundantly; the spectator's fancy must do the rest.

No. 71. J. D. Harding.—The artist has depicted the classic ruins of departed greatness in the very spirit of the poet whose lines he has made the foundation of his picture.

No. 113. *Loch Maree, Ross-shire*. G. F. Robson.—We pass by several of Mr. Robson's well-painted scenes to this, which, in point of sublimity and repose, has, we think, never been surpassed, and on which he has expended all the powers of his wonderful execution.

No. 104. *Brigands*. D. Cox.—Salvator-like, both in character and in effect.

No. 127. *The Breakfast—Good News*. F. Taylor.—Deserving of a better situation. Mr. Taylor has treated a pleasing subject in a pleasing and clever manner.

No. 149. *The Arrival of the New Governors*. Miss L. Sharpe.—This is a work which will come home to the feelings of but too many who have been compelled thus to undergo the severe and scornful scrutiny of the rich and the proud. The characters are admirably contrasted and sustained, and the whole is beautifully painted.

No. 158. *Shipwreck Scene on the Coast of Yorkshire*. Copley Fielding.—Much as we are accustomed to admire the productions of this artist, we are inclined to think that he has never equalled, we are sure that he can never have excelled, either in vigour of effect or in dexterity of execution, this magnificent representation of the terrible conflict of the elements.

No. 238. *An English Farm-yard*. R. Hills.—We cannot refrain from bringing in contrast to

the above, this picture of an English farm-yard, cheerful, and exciting ideas of perfect security, comprehending all that sustains and makes life, comfort and snugness. It is finished, and especially the cattle, with Mr. Hills' usual care.

(To be continued.)

SUFFOLK STREET EXHIBITION.

[Fifth Notice.]

No. 447. *Meditation*. B. R. Faulkner.—A beautiful and pleasing variety from the pencil of this able artist, whose portraits in the gallery of the present year do him great credit.

No. 453. *River Scene, Morning*. J. Tennant.—The compositions of Cuyper or Potter seldom exhibit a more brilliant display of light and colour. It is a perfect blaze, without any adventitious aid derived from extreme contrast. When time has a little mellowed its freshness, our collectors of foreign art may go far here they will find a finer example of its class.

No. 498. *A Scene in the Mountains*. J. A. O'Connor; No. 502. *Gobling Den*. Rev. J. Thomson.—Both highly romantic, but different in style: the former deep and intense in tone, although still clear and brilliant; the latter light, free, and broad, like some passages in the pictures of Salvator, or Wilson, or Sir George Beaumont.

The visitors to the gallery will find as much talent and variety in the Water-colour and Miniature Room, as in any other part of the Exhibition. Among the most striking in the imaginative class of works are No. 756, *The Countess of Leicester and Janet Foster*, Miss M. A. Sharpe, a beautiful example of contrast, both in costume and character; No. 572, *The Shrew*, Miss F. Corbeaux, a bold, but a successful venture, from a female pencil; No. 777, *Miss E. Tree, as Christina in the youthful Queen of Sweden*, J. W. Wright, divested of theatrical display, and exhibiting all the simplicity and generalisation of an historical figure; No. 600, *The Graces conducting the Loves to the Temple of Hymen*, J. Green, classically conceived, and highly finished; No. 605, *The Wrecked African*, R. Brandard, a bold, spirited drawing, and full of character.—Of the subjects in familiar life, No. 559, *Fruit Girl*, E. Parris, No. 606, *Cullercoats's Fish Girl going for Bait*, H. P. Parker, No. 591, *The Country Blacksmith*, T. Wage-man, No. 614, *The Shrimp Girl*, J. Holmes, No. 733, *Water Carrier*, S. A. Hart, No. 768, *The Itinerant Potter*, J. P. Knight, No. 776, *Greenwich Pensioner*, J. Holland, and several others, deserve particular notice.—The landscape department of drawings is also replete with excellence. Among the foremost of these are No. 749, *Four Views in Germany, France, Portugal, and Holland*, and No. 616, *Study of Trees in Northwick Park*, D. Roberts. It was by making such close and beautiful studies as the latter, that the veteran Wilson at length arrived at his grand results. No. 519, *A Sketch in Windsor Forest*, R. B. Davis, No. 528, *St. Gothard, Switzerland*, W. de la Motte, No. 529, *Composition*, J. W. Allen, No. 534, *Waiting the Arrival of the Boats*, J. M. Ince, No. 535, *After a Storm*, J. Ward, No. 590, *Magpye Lane, Oxford*, A. G. Vickers, No. 600, *Dolgelly*, J. M. Ince, No. 708, *Cottages, East Cliff, Hastings*, H. Melville, No. 762, *Landscape*, J. W. Allen, No. 778, *At Honfleur, Normandy*, C. R. Stanley, No. 734, *View of Amsterdam*, J. B. Crome, &c. &c. &c. are all beautiful.—In portraiture, the drawings of Mr. D. McClise are distinguished for their character, taste, and composition. We were particularly struck with No. 583, *Portrait of a Child*, and No. 718,

Portraits; the latter of which is a perfect gem. Nos. 646, 647, 648, *Portraits*, Miss Daniell, are no less remarkable for their light and beautiful execution.—In fruit, flowers, and still-life, there is also much to attract. It would be difficult to surpass No. 560, *Birds' Nests*, No. 618, *Plums*, Miss Byrne. No. 551, *Fish*, G. S. Shepperd, and others by the same artist, are admirable for their truth, and for their facile but efficient execution.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Samson carrying off the Gates of Gaza. Designed and engraved by James G. S. Lucas. Lacey.

"WHEN two men ride on the same horse, one must be behind." Mr. Lucas is evidently possessed of considerable imagination and talents; and we strongly advise him to dismount from Mr. Martin's crupper, and to bestride the saddle of a nag of his own.

Henry Fuseli. Engraved by F. C. Lewis, from a Drawing by G. S. Newton, A.R.A. Colnaghi and Co.

It does not strike us as very good taste, in depicting a man of genius, to select a period of life, and a situation, which impart to the portrait a character almost ludicrous. As well might the tremulous autograph affixed to the sketch under our notice be considered a just representation of the energetic Fuseli's handwriting in his days of physical, as the sketch itself can be considered a just representation of his features in his days and moments of mental vigour. It is cleverly executed, nevertheless.

Mrs. Wolff. Engraved by Samuel Cousins, from a Picture by the late Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. Colnaghi and Co.

MANY years have elapsed since the exquisite work of which Mr. Cousins has here given us so masterly and admirable an imitation, was exhibited on the walls of Somerset House; but the impression which the elegance of the composition, the taste of the drawing, the loveliness and delicacy of the expression, the splendid arrangement of the drapery, the beauty of the colouring, and the breadth and vigour of the effect, made on our minds, remains as freshly as if we had seen it only yesterday. Painted *con amore*, from a most fascinating original, it was one of Sir Thomas's happiest efforts. The print is superb.

Ancient Building at Dieppe. R. P. Bonington del.; C. G. Lewis sculp. Colnaghi and Co.

EVERY scrap from Bonington's pencil has in it a charm and value.—A very pleasing portrait of this admirable and lamented artist has just been published by Carpenter and Son. It is engraved by J. P. Quilley, from a picture by Mrs. Carpenter.

Lieut.-Colonel Denham, F.R.S., late Lieut.-Governor of Sierra Leone. Engraved by John Bromley, from a Picture painted on his return from Bornou, in Central Africa, in 1825, by Thos. Phillips, Esq., R.A., in the possession of John Murray, Esq. Colnaghi and Co.

A FAITHFUL and expressive resemblance of the amiable, highly gifted, and enterprising original, whose career was unhappily terminated at the very moment when it promised to be speedily productive of the highest public benefit.

Cadland. Painted by J. Ferneley; engraved by E. Duncan and J. Webb. Ackermann, Jun.

AN animated representation of the celebrated winner of the Derby, in 1828.

The Knights of the Tournament. Same Publisher.

THE lovers of chivalry are here presented with a dozen brave knights, mounted on as many spirited steeds, glittering in every rich variety of armour, weapon, and trapping, and eager for the encounter which is to honour or degrade them in the eyes of their fair mistresses.

ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE anniversary of this excellent Institution took place at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday; Lord Lyndhurst in the chair. His lordship frequently addressed the company, which was numerous, and comprised most of the eminent artists of the day, and pleaded the cause of the charity with great feeling and effect. His lordship alluded to his own connexion with the fine arts as a source of pride to him, for he esteemed the distinction won by talent to be far superior to any other honour. Sir M. Shee and Mr. Phillips spoke on several occasions, and a large subscription was made.

ARTISTS' AND AMATEURS' CONVERSAZIONE.

THE last meeting for the season of the above Society took place on Thursday week at the London Coffee House. We are gratified at seeing that the activity of the measures in establishing this novel feature in the city of London has been crowned with such success, and that the citizens have required the exertions of its projector, by coming forward to support the undertaking. Until now, the idea has unfortunately too much prevailed among men of business, that art has and can have little relation to commerce; forgetting the almost entire dependence of manufactures upon fashion, fashion upon taste, and taste upon the successful cultivation of the fine arts. The meeting this evening was more fully attended than even upon the former occasions, and the various works of art were numerous and well selected. We rejoiced to see that the artists, especially the rising ones, have attended to our observations on the *conversazione*, and evinced more confidence and alacrity than hitherto in producing their works: their own interests, and the vitality of the Society, depend entirely upon their continued attention to this important point.

MR. VERNON'S PICTURES.

THE sale of Mr. Vernon's pictures, which were lately brought to the hammer at Christie's, has been the subject of much talk among the lovers of art, from the enormous pecuniary sacrifice stated to have been sustained by that gentleman in consequence of the low prices obtained for what might be deemed capital works. Now, unfortunately, many people have the idea that wealth, with profusion for its attendant, is the only requisite to form a sterling collection of pictures; and that refined taste, combined with mature judgment, is of little use, or acquired by intuition; and when they find themselves the just victims of their own error, they attempt to divert ridicule by proclaiming themselves martyrs to fraud and deception. In the present instance, as regards the Virgin and Child, by Raphael, it is really surprising how any body in their senses, with a knowledge of the facts of this picture having been in the Orleans Gallery, and obtained thence for 500*l*.

by Mr. Hibbert, and then at the sale of his collection, a short time since, bringing but 280 guineas, should immediately after take it from the last purchaser, a foreign dealer, at the advanced price of 1000 guineas: at Mr. Vernon's sale it was knocked down at 290 guineas. Again, the Farewell Picture, by Both, which brought, at the dispersion of the late Mr. Josi's collection, something above 300*l.*, was acquired shortly afterwards by Mr. Vernon, at the price of 600*l.*: it has now produced him 297 guineas. These are not single instances of want of judgment, but we could select, did our limits allow it, many others from the same source. Our object in this animadversion is to prevent any discouragement being given to such as are duly led by fortune, disposition, and knowledge, to admire and patronise art for art's sake, and who do not hang furniture-pictures, but thoughts, upon their walls. The large prices given in many cases for worthless rubbish, by uninformed youth and older vanity, has been exceedingly injurious to the due progress of art in this country: it has been one of the inducements to the large importation of indifferent pictures, and has tempted the *chevalier d'industrie* to the trade of picture-dealing, which has become one of general discredit, although many honest and well-informed men are, to our knowledge, among its members.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

APATHY.

No words of mine confess a woe,
And tearless is mine eye;
Nor sad my brow, nor blanch'd my cheek,
Nor scapes one startling sigh;
Not oft I wander forth alone
In melancholy mood,
Nor seek distraction in the crowd,
From dread of solitude.
A barren void is in my breast,
Alas! I cannot feel;
No tumults of the heart in me,
Or joy or grief reveal;
No feverish thoughts accelerate
The current in my veins,
Nor banished sleep, nor troubled dream,
Give sign of mental pains.
Not thus, when late I met the blow,
And fresh was my despair;
Then keenly felt—of human woes
The heaviest to bear,—
The maddening contrast, with'ring pang,
Which naught of hope allays—
In present misery's gloomy hour,
The thought of happier days.*

MUSIC.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

BOTH the vocal and the instrumental pieces of the fifth concert, on Monday last, were well selected; and as they were also well performed, the concert proved to be one of the best of the year. Beethoven's scena, "Per pietà, non dirmi addio," is not the worse for savouring in style and melody of Mozart; and Mr. Braham was not the less applauded for singing it without those flourishes which cannot adorn such music. The beautiful quintet of Beethoven in E flat, for two violins, two violas, and violoncello, was in good hands; and though Mr. Mori shone conspicuously in it, Messrs. Watts, Moralt, Griesbach, and Lindley, sustained their

parts extremely well. The scena, "Deh calma," from Hummel's "Matilda von Guise," remarkably well sung by M^{me}. Stockhausen, is a fine composition, and gained much in interest by M. Hummel himself presiding at the piano-forte. He was heartily welcomed both by the audience and the band. Marschner's overture, "Der Templer und die Jüdin," did not please either the professor or the amateur, being destitute of a striking subject. Beethoven's seventh symphony, in A, with which the second act commenced, would not perhaps be so great a favourite if it were not for the inimitable andante and the sprightly scherzo. Signor Santini earned the compliment of being encoined in Mozart's "Qui sdegno," from "Il Flauto Magico." The compositions for the French horn are not very numerous; but Signor Puzzi might still have found something better than Costa's fantasia for that instrument. After the delightful treat of Mozart's "Fuggi crudel," by M^{me}. Stockhausen and Mr. Braham, the concert concluded with Weber's excellent overture to "Oberon."

DRAMA.

KING'S THEATRE.

ON Tuesday *Il Pirata*, which was unsuccessful last season, was again brought forward with a new cast, and introduced Signor Rubini and his wife to the British public. The signor has become a stout gentleman to what he was a few years ago, when his slim figure and sweet tenor were seen and heard in Italy. His voice bears a considerable resemblance to Donzelli's, but has neither the same volume nor compass; at least so far as we could judge from this part, which is by no means a favourable one for the performer. Under all circumstances, however, the *début* was justly applauded, and the signor welcomed as a valuable accession to the company. The lady also took her share in the triumph of carrying through *Il Pirata*, and displayed a voice of great extent.

DRURY LANE.

Alfred the Great; or, *the Patriot King*, was produced at this theatre on Thursday evening. Mr. Sheridan Knowles, the well-known author of *William Tell* and *Virginius*, has again reaped the satisfaction of entire success. The present drama is replete with allusions to regal patriotism, which were seized upon with avidity, and welcomed as so many opportunities for the display of popular love and gratitude towards our beloved Monarch. The impersonation of the King by Macready, his utterance, action, and chivalrous bearing, did the author the fullest justice; and the grace and dignity with which Miss Philipps sustained the character of *Ina*, cannot fail to rank her yet higher as a public favourite of the foremost order. The drama is to be repeated every evening, till theatrical proclamations are issued to the contrary.

We have hastily glanced over the play, which has just been published, but, at our eleventh hour, we must postpone criticism till next week.

THE performers at both theatres-royal were thunderstruck on Monday evening last, by the unexpected announcement that it was the intention of the lessees and proprietors to play only on alternate nights for the remainder of the season. Meetings were immediately called by both companies; and on Tuesday morning the performers and band of Drury Lane signified to the management their positive intention of

leaving the theatre *en masse*, and playing for their own benefit at the Haymarket. Mr. Lee, in this emergency, took upon himself the responsibility, in the absence of his partner, Capt. Polhill, to rescind the obnoxious order; a decision which was received with cheers by the company. An inquiry was then set on foot to discover from whom the proposal had emanated, but no positive information could be gained upon that point; and, contented with having effected their principal object, the performers separated. A similar scene, in the meanwhile, was acted at Covent Garden; and Mr. Bartley, on the part of the proprietors, yielded to the remonstrances of his brother comedians. The two theatres were therefore opened on Wednesday night; and the new comedy of the *Exquisites*, which had been postponed, re-announced for Friday at Covent Garden.

That both houses had been playing a losing game for some time past, was sufficiently obvious to the initiated, from the extravagant declarations of "triumphant success," "increasing attraction," &c. &c. in the playbills; and it is certainly not to be wondered at, that the lessees should prefer closing their doors to the certainty of losing upwards of £100 nightly by keeping them open. It is, however, rather too much to propose that the speculators, who, if they realised £20,000 by their season, would content themselves by simply paying the performers their salaries, should, when circumstances prove adverse, coolly decline fulfilling the contracts they have voluntarily and warily entered into,—particularly when it may be a question how far their own mismanagement has contributed to place them in this unfortunate predicament.

VARIETIES.

Death of Capt. Foster.—It is with much regret we learn, by letters which we received on Thursday, the untimely fate of Captain Foster, of his Majesty's ship Chanticleer, who had been employed for the last three years on a scientific expedition in various parts of the globe, and was about to return to this country. Captain Foster had left his ship, for the purpose of making a series of rocket observations on the Isthmus of Panama; and on his return down a small and shallow river in a canoe, he is said to have fallen overboard and to have been drowned. But strong suspicions exist for believing that this young, gifted, and meritorious officer was most treacherously murdered.

Berlin.—There is now publishing at Berlin a periodical review, entitled "Kritischer Wegweiser." The object of it is to improve geography, mathematical, physical, and hydrographical. The first part of the review contains notices of maps, with remarks on their wants and defects. In the second part, we find geographical and hydrographical observations, with many useful results that have been obtained in various departments of science.

Geological Structure of the Country round Algiers.—The additions made to science by the occupation of Algiers have already been considerable, and are scattered about in the numerous periodicals of France. Among others, the *Journal de Géologie* contains a memoir by M. Roget on the geological structure of the country round this city, in which he traces a striking resemblance to that of the coast of France on the opposite side of the Mediterranean. The formations are, 1st, a talcose schist, passing into mica slate. On this schist the town of Algiers is built: 2d, Brown

*—Nessun maggior dolore,
Che ricordarsi del tempo felice
Nella miseria.—*La Divina Commedia.*

mica slate, irregularly stratified, with quartz and tourmaline passing into gneiss. 3d, Coarse calcareous sandstone passing into conglomerate. 4th, Diluvium. M. Roget thinks that from this situation of the gneiss the beautiful theory of M. Cordier is verified, that in the primary formations those deposits are the most recent which occupy the lowest level; which means, that as the lowest formations, according to the theory alluded to, are the result of the consolidation of fluid masses from loss of heat, while the upper beds are the result of the attrition and subsequent deposition, partly mechanical, partly chemical, or entirely mechanical, of the first crust of oxidation; that in the primitive or crystalline rocks those must be the most recent which have been latest formed, and which consequently occupy the lowest level; in the sedimentary rocks the formation being from inwards outwards, in the crystalline from outwards inwards. But in both cases we hitherto have only judged of the relative age of the different rocks by their superposition, or their succession as terms of a series; for though modern geology has derived the most important assistance in determining this simple problem from the variety in organic remains in one part of the series; yet this is as much applicable to the identification of similar formations in different countries as to the succession of different formations. It will be observed, then, that by a singular error in ratiocination, M. Roget has been led into an important one in geognosy; for if we only know that granite, gneiss, mica slate, talcose slate, &c. are terms in a series, like the letters *a, b, c, d*, because we find them so superposed with regard to one another, if we find *d* before *b*, ought we to say that the series retrogrades, or, as is always the case in geognosy, ought we not to say that the terms *b* and *c* or *b* have been repeated after *d*? If, in other words, we know talcose slate to be newest, only because we find it above gneiss and mica slate, how can we assert that it is also recent when it occupies the lowest level? we cannot deprive it of its real situation in the series, because we were only acquainted with that situation by comparative evidence; but if we find gneiss above, that gneiss must have been of a more modern formation than the talcose slate. We make these remarks, because they are not only of importance with regard to M. Roget's or even M. Cordier's views, but to the fundamental principles of geology; for if we inverted the order of reasoning, and with the celebrated professor considered the lowest of the primitive formations as the most recent, we should have talcose slate, mica slate, gneiss, and granite, as *a, b, c, d*, according to most observations hitherto made on the structure of the globe, then there can be no objections in position to granite, as occupying the lowest level, being the newest of the crystalline rocks; but if, as in the present case, talcose slate is found beneath gneiss, the oldest primitive rocks, or those which should be oldest according to M. Cordier's reasoning, are newest according to his own views, and occupy the lowest level. M. Roget's supposition, that talcose slate, usually among the highest of the crystalline rocks, being found beneath mica slate and gneiss, verifies M. Cordier's views, is then quite erroneous, and brings into contact two doctrines which are not compatible with one another.

The Play of the Stranger.—To Kotzebue, its author, the total profit produced never exceeded two hundred German dollars; whilst Madame Moté, its literal translator, soon amassed a property of sixty thousand livres; and which

odd circumstance is thus accounted for:—throughout France, every night's theatrical receipts are divided into three parts, of which the author or translator receives a seventh of one-third; and this sum is paid him as long as he lives, and to his heirs ten years after his death.—*Reynolds' Dramatic Annual.*

Mineral Forest.—A subterranean forest has been discovered in the coal formation near Glasgow. The trees are numerous, they occur many feet below the surface, and are vertically imbedded in the sandstone. The trunks of the trees are abruptly cut off by the superincumbent shale. The bark is converted into coal, but the woody structure, for a considerable space downwards, is of a shaly nature. A naturalist, struck with the extraordinary appearance presented by this deposit, actually asserts that these trees are *in situ*!

Potatoes.—A French publication denies to Sir John Sinclair the merit of having discovered the means of producing a fine colour from the flower of the potato; and asserts that the Frenchmen of science have long stated the practicability of applying the water and the flower of the potato to the purposes of dyeing. It says that M. Fouques has shewn by experiments that linen and cotton, plunged into potato-water, acquire a grey colour; and that in 1817 a chemist of Copenhagen pointed out, in a scientific journal, a simple method of obtaining a fine yellow colour from the flowers of the *solanum tuberosum*. He dyed with it linen, cotton, and even woollen cloth, which took a very solid green colour on immersion in a blue dye.

Tanning.—An apothecary in the neighbourhood of Narbonne has published a treatise, extolling the husks of grapes which have been deprived of their alcohol by distillation, as an excellent substitute for bark in tanning leather. After having prepared the skins in the usual way, he places them in the pits, and covers them with the grape-husks. From five-and-thirty to five-and-forty days are sufficient to complete the tanning. This method, according to the author of it, offers the following advantages:—The operation is much more rapid; it is much more economical; the leather has an agreeable odour instead of that of tan; and it is twice as durable as leather tanned by bark.

Novel Application of Steam.—Steam has lately been applied with great success in some of the French forts, in the destruction of vermin on board of merchant vessels. After having carefully closed the hatches and every aperture, the steam is suddenly introduced, and in twenty-four hours every living thing which may have been brought in with the cargoes is destroyed.

Rouen.—The spirit shown by our continental neighbours in the encouragement of useful knowledge, is well worthy of imitation in this country. The Royal Academy of Sciences, Belles Lettres, and Arts, at Rouen, has just offered prizes of considerable value for the best treatises on the following subjects:—On the best organisation of the school established in consequence of the will of the late Major-general Martin, for instruction in the useful arts, especially those connected with the Lyonnaise manufactures; on some portion of the statistics of the department of the Rhone, or the city of Lyons in particular; on the principles upon which, in the present state of civilisation in France, the gradation of offences and punishments ought to be established, &c. &c.

"The 'ancient Irish' invariably denominate the more recent settlers, 'Cromelians.' A whimsical illustration of this fact occurred

within my own knowledge. The following conversation took place, a few months ago, in the streets of Cork, between an English house-keeper and an Irish market-woman:—"Good morning, ma'am. I hope ye want a basket this fine morning, ma'am?" "I believe I shall." "Why, then, long life to you, ma'am, I hope you'll take me. I b'lieve you're English, ma'am?" "Yes." "I thought so, ma'am; I'm English, too." "Indeed! when did you come over to Ireland?" "Oh, ma'am, I came over wid Oliver Cromwell, ma'am."—*Sketches of Irish Character.*

Artificial Spermæci.—When the method of making artificial spermæci had become newly known, Dr. Schmeisser of Hamburgh formed a quantity from some half-decayed human muscles, by means of nitric acid; and, making it into candles, sent some of them to Blumenbach, with a notice that they were prepared from the legs of a man who in his life-time had done no good. Upon which this veteran naturalist observed, "Mortui lucent, qui in vitâ obscuri fuerunt."

Existence of Copper in Vegetables and Blood.—M. Sargeau has confirmed the discovery of Meissner, that copper exists in vegetables. He has obtained small quantities from coffee, wheat, madder, blood, &c. M. Sargeau has found that one milligramme of copper may be detected by the cyano-ferrure of potassium in one kilogramme of water.

Maximum Height of the Supermedial Formations in England.	
Red Marl—Ashley Heath	803
Newer Magnesian Limestone—Brandon Mount	875
Lias maximum of elevation	500
Lower Division of Oolites—Eastern Moorlands of Yorkshire	1029
Great Oolite—Cleeve Hill (Gloucestershire)	1134
Middle Division of Oolites—Whitcomb Hill (Berkshire)	576
Purbeck, Portland, and Kimmeridge Beds—Shotover Hill	500
Ile of Portland	500
Green Sand—Leith Hill (Surrey)	983
Chalk Marl—Roman Camp of Siodunum (Dorchester)	500
Chalk—Inkpen Beacon (Wiltshire)	1011
London Clay—High Beech (Essex)	730
Lower fresh-water formation—Headdon Hill (isle of Wight)	90
Upper fresh-water formation—Headdon Hill (upper part)	400
Upper marine formation (Bagshot Heath)	463

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

[Literary Gazette Weekly Advertisement, No. XVIII. April 30.]

A New History and Description of the Town of Woburn, a Biography of the Russell Family, &c.; by J. D. Parry, M.A.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, Vol. XVIII. (History of England, by Sir J. Mackintosh, Vol. 3), fcp. 6s. bds. Cabinet Library, Vol. IV. (Annual Retrospect of Public Affairs for 1831, in 3 vols., Vol. 2), fcp. 5s. bds.—The Sunday Library, by T. F. Dibdin, D.D., Vol. III. fcp. 5s. bds.—Audubon's American Ornithological Biography, imp. 8vo. 1l. 5s. bds.—Byron's Works, Vols. V. and VI., 18mo. 9s. bds.—The Twelve Nights, port. 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—Darnell's Life of Isaac Basire, D.D., 8vo. 12s. bds.—Kelghtley's Mythology of Greece and Italy, (Twelve Plates by Brooke) 18s. cloth.—Rev. E. Hull on the Institution and Abuse of Ecclesiastical Property, 8vo. 6s. bds.—Blunt's Abraham, 12mo. 5s. 6d. bds.—Snow's Prayers, 18mo. 2s. 6d. bds.—Edinburgh Cabinet Library, Vol. III. (Ancient and Modern Egypt), 12mo. 5s. bds.—Mackenzie's Life of Thomas Muir, 12mo. 4s. bds.—Pearce's Memoirs, by his Son, 12mo. 4s. bds.—Aldine Poets, Vol. XII. (Beattie), 12mo. 5s. bds.—Boyle Corbet, or the Emigrants, by the Author of Lawrie Todd, &c., 3 vols. port. 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. bds.—Valpy's Classical Library, No. XVII. (Horace, Vol. 1), 12mo. 4s. 6d. bds.—Hughes's Divines, No. XII. (Barrow, Vol. 7), 8vo. 7s. 6d. bds.—Epitome of Literature, No. II. (Paley's Evidences, and Locke on the Understanding), 18mo. 5s. 6d. bds.—Plain Sermons, preached in a Village Church, by a Country Clergyman, second edition, 12mo. 5s. bds.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our account of two interesting papers, read at the last meeting of the College of Physicians, we are compelled, for want of space, to postpone till next week.

ADVERTISEMENTS,

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